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Abſtract of the Tea and Window Duty Commutation Act.

FROM Sept. 15. 1784, the ſeveral duties upon tea ſhall ceaſe:

For all tea which ſhall be ſold by the Eaſt-India Company, after Sept. 15. the purchaſer or purchaſers ſhall pay a duty of 12 l. 10 s. *per cent.*

The Company ſhall, as ſoon as may be after the paſſing of this act, expoſe to public ſale, at the leaſt 5,000,000 of pounds weight of tea; and ſhall, in like manner, at ſome other time before Dec. 31. next, make another ſale, at which they ſhall, in like manner, put up, at leaſt, 2,500,000 pounds weight of tea; and ſhall thenceforward continue to make, at leaſt, four ſales every year, and, as near as conveniently may be, at equal diſtances of time, and ſhall put up at ſuch ſales ſuch quantities of tea as ſhall be judged ſufficient to ſupply the demand; and at every ſale, the tea put up ſhall be ſold without reſerve to the higheſt bidder, provided an advance of 1 d. per lb. ſhall be bid upon the upſet prices; and at the four firſt ſales which ſhall be made after the paſſing of this act, the prices at which the tea ſhall be put up ſhall be as follows, viz. for Bohea tea, 1 s. 7 d. per lb.; Congo, 2 s. 5 d.; Souchong, 3 s. 3 d.; Singlo, 3 s. 3 d.; Hyſon, 4 s. 11 d.; and it ſhall not hereafter be lawful for the Company to put up their tea for ſale at any prices which ſhall, upon the whole of the

tea ſo put up at any one ſale, exceed the prime coſt thereof, with the freight and charges of importation, together with lawful intereſt from the time of the arrival of ſuch tea in Britain, and the common premium of inſurance, as a compenſation for the ſea-riſk incurred thereon; and that the Company ſhall, from time to time, ſend orders for the purchaſe of ſuch quantities of tea, as, being added to the ſtock in their warehouſes, and to the quantities ordered and not arrived, ſhall amount to a ſufficient ſupply for the keeping a ſtock at leaſt equal to one year's conſumption, according to the ſales of the laſt preceding year, always before hand; and that the Company ſhall, from time to time, lay before the Commiſſioners of the Treaſury copies of the accounts and eſtimates upon which ſuch orders for importation, or prices for ſale, or quantities put up to ſale, ſhall be grounded, whenever ſuch orders ſhall be ſent out, or ſuch ſales made, or as often as they ſhall be called upon for the ſame by the Treaſury.

And for the relief of all perſons now poſſeſſed of tea bought of the Company, but remaining in their warehouſes as aforeſaid, it hath been agreed by the Company, in compliance with the unanimous opinion of a general meeting of the ſaid perſons, to take back from them all ſuch tea at prime coſt; it is enacted, That all bargains made by the Company, reſpecting ſuch tea, as, having been ſold at their ſales, ſhall, on Sept. 15. next, remain in their warehouſes not delivered to the buyers, ſhall be void; and that the Company ſhall forthwith grant to each of the buyers a certificate of the ſum of money which they ſhall have paid to the Company in reſpect thereof; which certificate ſhall be received by the Company as caſh to the ſame amount, in payment for any tea bought at their next enſuing ſale; or, if not ſo tendered in payment, the Company ſhall, upon demand, at any time after the prompt day, or day of payment, to be appointed for tea to be ſo bought at their next ſale, pay the ſame in caſh to the holder thereof.

It is enacted, That for every dwelling houſe, in Britain, which, with the offices, &c. is, or ought to be rated, under the authority of an act 6th Geo. III. intitled, "An act for repealing the ſeveral duties upon houſes, windows, and lights; and for granting to his Majeſty other duties upon houſes, windows, and lights," at 3 s. ſhall be paid the additional yearly ſum of 3 s.

For every dwelling-houſe in like manner, the additional yearly ſums following:

Windows.	*L.*	*s.*	*d.*	*Windows.*	*L.*	*s.*
7	0	6	0	40 to 44	5	10
8	0	8	0	45 to 49	6	0
9	0	10	6	50 to 54	6	10
10	0	13	0	55 to 59	7	0
11	0	15	6	60 to 64	7	10
12	0	18	0	65 to 69	8	0
13	1	1	0	70 to 74	8	10
14	1	5	0	75 to 79	9	0
15	1	10	0	80 to 84	9	10
16	1	15	0	85 to 89	10	0
17	2	0	0	90 to 94	10	10
18	2	5	0	95 to 99	11	0
19	2	10	0	100 to 109	12	0
20	2	15	0	110 to 119	13	0
21	3	0	0	120 to 129	14	0
22	3	5	0	130 to 139	15	0
23	3	10	0	140 to 149	16	0
24	3	15	0	150 to 159	17	0
25 to 29	4	0	0	160 to 169	18	0
30 to 34	4	10	0	170 to 179	19	0
35 to 39	5	0	0	180 & upwards	20	0

N. B. The houſehold, and other offices, are included in each deſcription reſpectively.

That no one perſon ſhall be ſubjected to the payment of any of the duties by this act impoſed, for more than two houſes which he ſhall occupy at the ſame time: Provided always, That each perſon ſhall, in all caſes, pay the duties for his two houſes that contain the greateſt number of windows.

Penalty of neglect in giving in an exact account to the collector, is 50 l.

There are four days of payment in the year, Oct. 10. Jan. 5. April 5. and July 5. by equal portions; the firſt payment to be made on April 5. 1785; and in Scotland on or before Sept. 29. yearly, for the half year betwixt Whitſunday and Martinmas, and on or before March 25. yearly, for the half year betwixt Martinmas and Whitſunday.

Occupiers for the time being only to pay, except in certain caſes.

Thoſe exempted, by poverty, from the other rates, do not pay.

When any houſe ſhall be divided into different ſtories, tenements, or lodgings, and ſhall be inhabited by two or more perſons or families, the ſame ſhall nevertheleſs be ſubject to pay the duties as if ſuch houſe or tenement was inhabited by

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one perſon or family only; and the landlord or owner of ſuch houſe ſhall be deemed the occupier of ſuch dwelling-houſe, and ſhall be liable to pay the duties.

And all dwelling rooms in every hall and office whatſoever, belonging to any perſon or perſons, or to any bodies politic or corporate, that are or may be lawfully charged with the payment of any other taxes or pariſh-rates, ſhall be ſubject to the duties granted by this act, and ſhall be reſpectively charged as inhabited houſes, within the meaning of this act: and the perſon or perſons, &c. to whom the ſame ſhall belong, ſhall be aſſeſſed as the occupier or occupiers thereof: And each diſtinct chamber or apartment, in any college or hall in any of the univerſities of G. Britain, ſhall be ſubject to the duties granted by this act, as if the ſame was an entire houſe.

That every chamber or apartment in any of the inns of court or chancery, being ſeverally in the occupation of any perſon or perſons, ſhall be ſubject to the duties granted by this act, as if the ſame was an entire houſe.

It is further enacted, That there ſhall be raiſed upon the ſeveral goods after mentioned, which ſhall, after Sept. 15. 1784, be imported into this kingdom, over and above all duties already impoſed thereon, the duties following, viz.

For every pound weight avoirdupois of cocoa nuts, the growth or produce of any Britiſh colony in America, and imported directly from thence, 6 d.

And for every pound weight of cocoa-nuts of any other place, 1 s. 6 d.

For every pound weight of coffee, of the produce of any Britiſh colony in America, and imported directly from thence, 6 d.

And for every pound weight of coffee, of any other place, 2 s. 6 d.

And in thoſe proportions for any greater or leſs quantity; and the ſaid duties ſhall be alſo ſubject and liable to an additional duty of five per cent. thereon, which were impoſed by two acts of parliament, made in the 19th and 22d Geo. III. for granting additional duties upon the produce of the ſeveral duties under the management of the commiſſioners of the cuſtoms and exciſe in G. Britain.

After Sept. 15. 1784, the duties and other impoſitions of exciſe, commonly called the inland-duties, upon all cocoa-nuts or coffee imported, ſold, or uſed in Britain, ſhall ceaſe.

The following Table ſhows at one view the amount of both the old and new Window Duties.

Windows.	*Per Ann.*	*Windows.*	*Per Ann.*
6	L. 0 1 0	58	L. 12 17 0
7	0 8 2	59	12 19 0
8	0 13 0	60	13 11 0
9	0 17 6	61	13 13 0
10	1 2 4	62	13 15 0
11	1 7 6	63	13 17 0
12	1 13 0	64	13 19 0
13	1 19 4	65	14 11 0
14	2 7 0	66	14 13 0
15	2 12 6	67	14 15 0
16	3 0 0	68	14 17 0
17	3 6 6	69	14 19 0
18	3 13 0	70	15 11 0
19	3 19 6	71	15 13 0
20	4 7 8	72	15 15 0
21	4 16 0	73	15 17 0
22	5 4 6	74	15 19 0
23	5 13 2	75	16 11 0
24	6 2 0	76	16 13 0
25	6 11 0	77	16 15 0
26	6 13 0	78	16 17 0
27	6 15 0	79	16 19 0
28	6 17 0	80	17 11 0
29	6 19 0	81	17 13 0
30	7 11 0	82	17 15 0
31	7 13 0	83	17 17 0
32	7 15 0	84	17 19 0
33	7 17 0	85	18 11 0
34	7 19 0	86	18 13 0
35	8 11 0	87	18 15 0
36	8 13 0	88	18 17 0
37	8 15 0	89	18 19 0
38	8 17 0	90	19 11 0
39	8 19 0	91	19 13 0
40	9 11 0	92	19 15 0
41	9 13 0	93	19 17 0
42	9 15 0	94	19 19 0
43	9 17 0	95	20 11 0
44	9 19 0	96	20 13 0
45	10 11 0	97	20 15 0
46	10 13 0	98	20 17 0
47	10 15 0	99	20 19 0
48	10 17 0	100	22 1 0
49	10 19 0	101	22 3 0
50	11 11 0	102	22 5 0
51	11 13 0	103	22 7 0
52	11 15 0	104	22 9 0
53	11 17 0	105	22 11 0
54	11 19 0	106	22 13 0
55	12 11 0	107	22 15 0
56	12 13 0	108	22 17 0
57	12 15 0	109	22 19 0
			110

Windows.	Per Ann.	Windows.	Per Ann.
110	L. 24 1 0	146	L. 30 13 0
111	24 3 0	147	30 15 0
112	24 5 0	148	30 17 0
113	24 7 0	149	30 19 0
114	24 9 0	150	32 1 0
115	24 11 0	151	32 3 0
116	24 13 0	152	32 5 0
117	24 15 0	153	32 7 0
118	24 17 0	154	32 9 0
119	24 19 0	155	32 11 0
120	26 1 0	156	32 13 0
121	26 3 0	157	32 15 0
122	26 5 0	158	32 17 0
123	26 7 0	159	32 19 0
124	26 9 0	160	34 1 0
125	26 11 0	161	34 3 0
126	26 13 0	162	34 5 0
127	26 15 0	163	34 7 0
128	26 17 0	164	34 9 0
129	26 19 0	165	34 11 0
130	28 1 0	166	34 13 0
131	28 3 0	167	34 15 0
132	28 5 0	168	34 17 0
133	28 7 0	169	34 19 0
134	28 9 0	170	36 1 0
135	28 11 0	171	36 3 0
136	28 13 0	172	36 5 0
137	28 15 0	173	36 7 0
138	28 17 0	174	36 9 0
139	28 19 0	175	36 11 0
140	30 1 0	176	36 13 0
141	30 3 0	177	36 15 0
142	30 5 0	178	36 17 0
143	30 7 0	179	36 19 0
144	30 9 0	180	38 1 0
145	30 11 0		

And for every window above that number 2 s. more.

Beſides the above duties, each perſon having an inhabited houſe and offices, valued at 5 l. Sterling of yearly rent and upwards, and under 20 l. muſt pay 6 d. per pound, in virtue of the 19th of his preſent Majeſty, cap. 59. For an inhabited houſe and offices, valued at 20 l. Sterling of yearly rent and upwards, and under 40 l.—9 d. per pound; and for an inhabited houſe and offices, valued at 40 l. Sterling of yearly rent and upwards—1 s. per pound.

N. B. All out-houſes are included in the charges; and no diviſion allowed on any pretence.

HEADS *of the* GAME ACT.

Which takes place Oct. 1.

EVery perſon in Great Britain, qualified to kill game, ſhall deliver in his name and place of abode to the clerk of the peace, &c. and annually take out a certificate thereof, for which he ſhall pay a ſtamp duty of 2 l. 2 s.

Every deputation of a game-keeper, by a Lord or Lady of a manor, to be regiſtered with the clerk of the peace, &c. and the game-keeper annually to take out a certificate, for which he muſt pay 10 s. 6 d.

The duties to be under the management of the commiſſioners of the ſtamp-duties.

Every qualified perſon ſhall deliver into the office of the clerk of the peace, &c. an account of his name and place of abode, and every game-keeper ſhall regiſter his deputation, mentioning the name of the manor, &c. and ſhall be intitled to a certificate thereon.

Clerks of the peace to ſign and deliver tickets to perſons requiring the ſame; on refuſal to forfeit 50 l. each time.

Clerks of the peace refuſing or neglecting to grant certificates, to forfeit 50 l. for each refuſal.

Certificates to bear date on the day when iſſued, and to continue in force till July 1. 1785; and no certificate to iſſue between Oct. 1. 1784, and March 1. 1785; every certificate after March 1. 1785, to be iſſued between that and the 1ſt of July 1785, to bear date from the day when iſſued, and remain in force twelve kalendar months. Clerks of the peace acting contrary, to forfeit 50 l.

Clerks of the peace may iſſue certificates after July 1. to every perſon who hath been beyond the ſeas, and may arrive after that day; and the reaſon muſt be mentioned in the certificate, but to pay double duties, and be in force no longer than July 1. following.

Qualified perſons who ſhall kill game without a certificate after Oct. 1. to forfeit 50 l.

Act not to extend to any of the Royal Family.

Clerks of the peace annually to tranſmit to the ſtamp-office in London, correct liſts of the certificates granted, on penalty of 20 l. which are to be kept at the office for inſpection.

In caſe of a new appointment of game-keeper, the certificate to be void.

Any perſon in purſuit of game, who ſhall refuſe to produce his certificate to *any* authoriſed perſon, or tell his name and place of abode, to forfeit 50 l.

Certificates not to authoriſe perſons

to

to kill game, at any time prohibited by law, &c.

Certificates obtained under deputations not to be given in evidence for killing game out of the manor, &c.

Where there are no clerks of the peace, application to be made to the clerks of the county, &c. adjoining.

Perſons conterfeiting ſtamps to ſuffer death as felons.

Proviſions of former acts relating to ſtamp duties to be in force.

Penalties to be ſued for, and recovered in the courts at Weſtminſter, for England; and for Scotland in the courts there; and when the plaintiff ſhall recover any penalty or penalties, to be for his or her own uſe, with double coſts of ſuit.

Penalties not exceeding 20l. may be recovered before any county juſtice, and may be levied by diſtreſs; for want of effects, the offender to be committed for ſix months.

Perſons aggrieved may apply to the quarter-ſeſſions, upon giving ſecurity to the amount of penalty, and payment of coſts, if judgement is affirmed.

Perſons ſummoned as witneſſes, and not appearing, to forfeit 10l.

Juſtices may mitigate penalties.

Duties to be paid to receiver-general of ſtamp-duties.

SIR, *Leiceſter-ſquare, Aug.* 24.

THE papers having mentioned the death of Allan Ramſay, Eſq; portrait painter to his Majeſty, it put me in mind of a letter in my poſſeſſion, which was written by his father, the famous Scotch bard, to Mr John Smibert, a portrait painter, who left England with Dean Berkley, afterwards Biſhop of Cloyne, to ſettle in Bermudas. That project miſcarrying, Mr Smibert went to Boſton, married, and died. As the letter gives ſome account of Mr Ramſay, in his youth, it may ſerve to illuſtrate any future anecdotes of Engliſh artiſts, and not to be unacceptable to both painters and poets. I am, &c.

JOHN GREENWOOD.

To Mr John Smibert, in Boſton, New England.

"My dear old friend, Your health and happineſs are ever ane addition to my ſatisfaction. God make your life ever eaſy and pleaſant — half a century of years have now row'd o'er my pow; yes, row'd o'er my pow, that begins now to be lyart; yet, thanks to my Author, I eat, drink, and ſleep as ſound as I did twenty years ſyne; yes, I laugh heartily too, and find as many ſubjects to employ that faculty upon as ever: fools, fops, and knaves, grow as rank as formerly; yet here and there are to be found good and worthy men, who are an honour to human life. We have ſmall hopes of ſeeing you again in our old world; then let us be virtuous, and hope to meet in heaven.—— My good auld wife is ſtill my bedfellow; my ſon, Allan, has been purſuing your ſcience ſince he was a dozen years auld — was with Mr Hyſſing, at London, for ſome time, about two years ago; has been ſince at home, painting here like a Raphael — ſets out for the ſeat of the Beaſt, beyond the Alps, within a month hence — to be away about two years.—— I'm ſweer to part with him, but canna ſtem the current which flows from the advice of his patrons, and his own inclinations.—— I have three daughters, one of 17, one of 16, one of 12 years old, and no waly-dragle among them, all fine girls. Theſe ſix or ſeven years paſt I have not wrote a line of poetry; I e'en gave o'er in good time, before the coolneſs of fancy that attends advanced years ſhould make me riſk the reputation I had acquired.

Frae twenty-five to five-and-forty,
My Muſe was nowther ſweer nor dorty;
My Pegaſus wad break his tether,
E'en at the ſhakking of a feather,
And through ideas ſcour like drift,
Streaking his wings up to the lift,
Then, then my ſaul was in a low,
That gart my numbers fately row,
But eild and judgment gin to ſay,
Let be your ſangs, and learn to pray.

I am, Sir, your friend and ſervant,

ALLAN RAMSAY.

Edinburgh, May 10. 1736.

Some account of the families of the Lords of Parliament or Chieftains whoſe eſtates are now to be reſtored by an act of the laſt ſeſſion of parliament, viz. Drummond, Earl (commonly called Duke) of Perth; Mackenzie, Earl of Cromarty; Cameron of Lochiel, Robertſon of Strowan, and Macpherſon of Cluny.

THE houſe of Drummond is of great antiquity, and had the honour of giving a Queen to Scotland, Annabel, wife of King Robert III. and mother to King James I.

James I. of whom moſt of the crowned heads in Europe are deſcended. This illuſtrious family was in great favour with the laſt Kings of the houſe of Stuart. James, Earl of Perth, was created a Duke by King James VII. but the Revolution happened before his patent paſſed the ſeals. His younger brother, the Earl of Melford, was likewiſe created a Duke, and the title deſcended to his ſecond ſon, whoſe poſterity ſtill enjoy it in France. To his eldeſt ſon he left the eſtate of Lundin, which came to him by marrying the heireſs of that ancient family; and of that ſon is deſcended the preſent Captain Drummond, who is now chief of the Drummonds, and is to have the eſtate of Perth. The Duke of Roxburgh is deſcended in the male line of the family of Perth, as is likewiſe the Viſcount Strathallan, whoſe ſons and grandſons are now ſettled in England.

The Earl of Cromarty, father of the preſent Lord Macleod, was a branch of the Earls of Seaforth. Roderick Mackenzie, their immediate anceſtor, was a younger ſon of Sir Roderick Mackenzie of Kintail, chief of the clan of Mackenzie; and he marrying the heireſs of Macleod of Lewes, acquired the eſtate of that moſt ancient family, whoſe arms are now quartered with the paternal coat of Mackenzie. His grandſon George, having greatly ſignalized his loyalty in the cauſe of King Charles I. was, by King James II. created Viſcount Tarbat, and Lord Macleod.

The ancient Scotch being much attached to their old cuſtoms, their chieftains in general were not ambitious of foreign titles, which were introduced by degrees with the Engliſh language ſince the marriage of Malcolm III. with a princeſs of England. Before that time the Scotch nobility had no titles, and even afterwards we find very few till about the middle of the 15th century. Though we find the term of *Lord* uſed very anciently amongſt them, both in the original language, and in Engliſh, it was not a title conferred by the Kings.

Of the number of thoſe primitive nobles were the chieftains of the clan Cattan and clan Cameron, whoſe families are of ſuch remote antiquity, that there is no veſtige, even in tradition, of any other having poſſeſſed the ſame lands before them. Thoſe two clans had frequent wars together under the feudal government; the hiſtorian Buchanan gives an account of one of their laſt battles. The clan Cattan have long been divided into two principal branches. Many centuries ago their chieftain having no ſon, left his lands to his daughter and her huſband, who was a ſon of Macduff Thane of Fife; and of that marriage is deſcended M'Intoſh, which name ſignifies in Gaelic, the Thane's ſon; but the heir-male of the clan Cattan is Macpherſon of Cluny, now a colonel in the third regiment of guards. It is remarkable, that the families whoſe eſtates are now to be reſtored, were of the number of thoſe who ſhewed the greateſt loyalty in the cauſe of King Charles I. None amongſt thoſe ſignalized himſelf more than Evan Cameron of Lochiel, whoſe deſcendants were afterwards ſo firmly attached to the dethroned branch of the royal family.

The family of Strowan, now called Robertſon, ſubſiſted long without any ſirname, being a branch of the family of the Iſles, which had none, it being only ſince the death of the laſt Lords of the Iſles that the lateſt deſcendants took the name of Macdonald. The claim of the Lords of the Iſles to ſovereignty, and their wars in different ages to ſupport that claim, are known to thoſe who have read the ancient hiſtories of England and Scotland. Beſides all the iſles, they poſſeſſed the whole north-weſt part of Scotland, from the ſouth of Argyleſhire, to the north of Roſsſhire.

Duncan of Athol, ſon of Angus Lord of the Iſles, was the founder of the family of Strowan. It appears by the charters on record, that he and his deſcendants for ſeveral generations, had a very great eſtate in Perthſhire, which has diminiſhed gradually for ſome centuries paſt. The ſame records likewiſe ſhew, that in Scotland, nobility did not depend upon titles, Duncan of Athol and ſome of his deſcendants being ſtyled noblemen in their charters, both in Engliſh and in Latin. The family, like many others in Scotland, was, by different marriages, nearly related to the Kings, but was more remarkable by ſeveral brave acts of loyalty and patriotiſm, ſome of which are commemorated in their coat of arms. They likewiſe ſhewed great zeal in the cauſe of King Charles I. whereof they have a ſignal teſtimony in a letter from King Charles II. to the tutor of Strowan, who then acted as chief in the minority of his nephew.

Anecdotes of the unfortunate ROUSSEAU.

From Obſervations on the preſent ſtate of Denmark, Ruſſia, and Swiſſerland, *lately publiſhed.*

THis entertaining writer, after deſcribing the little town of Bienne in Switzerland, and the picturesque paſſage from Cerlier to that republic, in which, from a hill called Joliment, the proſpect preſents on every ſide the moſt enchanting ſcenery, comes next to ſpeak of the bold and fertile iſland of St Peter, where the unfortunate Rouſſeau had fixed his laſt retreat, ſequeſtered from his friends, and wholly given up to muſic and botany, forgetting and forgiving his enemies. But, unhappily for him, *Les Lettres de la Compagne* were uſhered into the world with all the pride and ſupport of ariſtocratical inſolence. Several anſwers appeared, which ſerved only to confirm the ſuperior talents of M. Tronchin, the author. "It was now," ſays our traveller, "that M. Rouſſeau found himſelf miſtaken in his paſſion for peace and oblivion. The inſults and injuries he had experienced had left an animoſity in his heart that he could not vanquiſh. * * * * His *Lettres de la Montagne*, in which he ſeems to have exhauſted every reſource of his aſtoniſhing genius, immediately gave new ſpirits to the popular party. They triumphed in their turn, and ſaw the pen they ſo much dreaded effectually conſigned to neglect, by the manly eloquence of their forgotten and abandoned Rouſſeau. Thus entered into this political conteſt, the anathemas pronounced from the pulpit againſt him, leading him into doubts about the purity of their doctrine, he drew on himſelf the reſentment of thoſe who had protected him. He was ſummoned before the conſiſtory, to give an account of his articles of faith: the doctrines he eſtabliſhed were deemed dangerous; the clergy of Neufchatel applied to the council; and the council to the King. The following was the anſwer of his Pruſſian Majeſty:

"Friends and truſty ſubjects,

It is with ſatisfaction we behold in the humble report to us of the 4th inſtant, relative to the work of M. Rouſſeau, intitled, *Letters from the Mountain*, the attention you pay to objects you think intereſting to the cauſe of religion. We cannot but approve the zeal of your holy paſtors, in wiſhing to prevent the promulgation of ſentiments contrary to the eſtabliſhed and received doctrines of your country. And diſpoſed, as we are, to ſecond them in their laudable views, after examining the means moſt conducive to that purpoſe, we readily permit you to take what meaſures you think moſt neceſſary to the public good, with regard to the new edition and ſale of the ſaid letters in queſtion; leaving it to your prudence and diſcretion to reject every thing that, after mature deliberation, may appear likely to open a future ſource of diſcord and diviſion. Our intention, however, is, that the ſaid work ſhould meet with no mark of public infamy; which, beſides being adverſe to the ſpirit of moderation, that ought ever to accompany the defenders of truth, frequently gives a greater publicity to the writings it proſcribes, and loſes, by the act of condemnation, the very end it propoſes to obtain. For the reſt, we make no doubt, but as you are the firſt to do juſtice to the exemplary life and conduct of M. Rouſſeau, you are, at the ſame time, inclined to permit him peaceably to enjoy the protection of your laws in the retreat he has choſen; where our will is, likewiſe, that he ſhould remain in perfect repoſe. With this we pray God to keep you in his holy protection. By order of the King.

FINCKENSTEIN HERSBERG."

March 30. 1765.

There was now only one way left to render this noble leſſon of toleration uſeleſs. The country was alarmed. He was every day expoſed to inſults and danger, and thought it beſt, by a precipitate flight, to avoid the rage of an incenſed and miſguided populace. After a few months reſidence on this charming and ſequeſtered iſland, he was once more ordered, by the council of Berne, to quit their territories. His misfortunes now overwhelmed him. He abandoned all hopes of happineſs. The following ſingular letter to his friend F. de Grafomied, is at once a proof of his feelings, and a reproach on the cruel inveteracy of his enemies.

Iſland of St Peter, Oct. 20. 1765.

"SIR,

The wretched ſituation in which I now am, and the confidence I have in your goodneſs, have determined me to intreat you to propoſe one condition to their Excellencies: which, whilſt it releaſes me, once for all, from the troubles of a turbulent life, will, at the ſame time, more completely fulfil, in my opinion,

nion, the intentions of thoſe who perſecute me. I have conſulted my age, my temper, and my ſtrength; none of them are capable of ſupporting the fatigue of a long and a dangerous journey, or of combating the inclemencies of the ſeaſon in a foreign country, at a moment when my infirmities hardly allow me to quit my chamber. After what has paſſed, I dare not enter the territories of Neufchatel, where even the protection of the ſovereign and the government cannot ſecure me againſt the fury of a deluded people. You cannot but be ſenſible, likewiſe, that thus inhumanly driven from this, I can have no hopes of protection from the ſmaller and neighbouring ſtates. Reduced, therefore, to this cruel extremity, there appears to me but one reſource; and, however dreadful it may appear, I embrace it, not only without reluctance, but with an eagerneſs to ſee it accompliſhed. If their Excellencies will but permit me to paſs the reſt of my days in priſon in any part of their ſtate they ſhall judge proper, I will live there at my own coſt, and give ſecurity for my future ſubſiſtence. They may debar me, if they pleaſe, from pen and paper, and from every worldly communication but thoſe immediately neceſſary, and which ſhall be carried on by the perſon to whoſe care I am intruſted. All I requeſt is, the uſe of a few books, and the permiſſion, now and then, of taking a few turns in the garden. Do not imagine, from the apparent violence of the expedient, that it is only the reſult of deſpair. My mind is at this moment perfectly calm, and my determination proceeds from the moſt cautious and profound conſideration. If the reſolution I have formed is an extraordinary one, you will allow my ſituation to be no leſs ſo. My calamities are without example; the ſtorms of life I have for many years been expoſed to were enough to have ruined the health of the ſtrongeſt man; what then muſt be their effects on a poor invalid like me, worn out with cares and vexations, and whoſe only ambition is to die in peace! The paſſions of my heart are all extinct; I feel only the deſire of retreat and repoſe; and thoſe will accompany me to the habitation of my choice. There, delivered from the idle importunities of the curious, and ſecured from the fatal contingency of any new event, I ſhall await the laſt with patience; and, having no communication with the world, have nothing to increaſe my ſorrows. I love liberty, I confeſs: but mine is beyond the reach of man, and bolts and bars cannot deprive me of it. This captivity appears to me armed with ſo little terror, and I am ſo firmly perſuaded that it will afford me all the happineſs I can expect in this life, that, upon that very account, though it would free my enemies from every alarm, I dare not hope to obtain it. But I am willing to acquit myſelf of every public as well as private reproach, and to try every honeſt means of inſuring my own peace and quiet, and preventing any new dangers my enemies may force me to brave. I am well acquainted, Sir, with thoſe ſentiments of juſtice and humanity with which your generous heart abounds, and feel how much it will coſt it to demand a favour of this nature in my behalf. But I truſt, that, when you have conſidered every thing, the requeſt I make will appear as a bleſſing; and the ſame ſentiments which occaſion your reluctance, is the ſureſt voucher I can have of your being able to ſurmount it. I wait the honour of an anſwer before I take any deciſive ſtep; and begging you to accept at once my excuſes and reſpect, I remain," &c.

M. Rouſſeau was not ſo ignorant of the laws, as not to know that the magiſtrates could not impriſon a man for life, and debar him from pen and ink, and the ſociety of his friends, without a legal proceſs; yet he affected to be much hurt by their refuſal. His pride was, to be thought the object of perſecution in whatever country he choſe to reſide. To keep up the farce, he wrote to his friend the following pathetic letter.

Iſland of St Peter, Oct. 22. 1765.

"SIR,

I ſhall be able to quit the iſland of St Peter next Saturday, and can ſo far conform to the order of their Excellencies. But the extent of their territories, and the ill ſtate of my health, will not permit me the ſame day to paſs the limits of their power. If they are inclined to puniſh this mark of diſobedience, my life and perſon are perfectly at their diſpoſal. I have learnt to expect every thing from mankind, and my ſoul is ever prepared for the worſt.—Receive, juſt and generous man, the aſſurance of my reſpectful gratitude, and of a remembrance that will for ever be dear to my heart."

MEMOIRS

MEMOIRS *of the Life of* VOLTAIRE *continued.* [p. 350.]

CArdinal de Fleury died the 29th of February 1743, at the age of ninety. Never did man come to be prime minister later in life, and never did prime minister keep his place so long. He began his career of good fortune at the age of seventy-three, by being King of France; and so he continued indisputably to the day of his death, always affecting the greatest modesty, never amassing riches, and without pomp, forming himself only to reign. He left the reputation of an artful and amiable person, rather than that of a man of genius, and was said to have known the intrigues of a court, better than the affairs of Europe.

Public affairs, however, went on no better since the death of the Cardinal, than they had done during the two last years of his life. The House of Austria rose from its ashes into new life; France was pressed hard by England; and we had no resource left but in the King of Prussia, who had led us into this war, and who abandoned us in our necessity. They conceived the design of sending me secretly to sound the intentions of this monarch, and try if he was not in a humour to prevent the storm, which, soon or late, must gather at Vienna, and fall upon him, after having visited us. A pretext was wanted for my journey to Prussia; and I seized that of a dispute I had with the Bishop of Mierepoix, who had prevented me from succeeding to Cardinal Fleury's place in the French academy. I writ to the King of Prussia, that I must take refuge with a Prince who was a philosopher, to escape the snare of a Bishop who was a bigot.

When I came to Berlin, his Majesty would lodge me in the palace, as he had done on my former visits. He led at Potzdam the life he had always led since his advancement to the throne: the manner of it deserves a description.

He rose at five in summer, and six in winter. If you wish to know the royal ceremonies, what they were on great, and what on common occasions, the functions of his high almoner, his great chamberlain, the first gentleman of his bed-chamber, and his gentlemen ushers, I answer, a single lacquey came to light his fire, dress, and shave him, though he partly dressed himself alone. His chamber was rather beautiful: a rich balustrade of silver, ornamented with little loves, of exceeding good sculpture, seemed to form the alcove of the state-bed, the curtains of which were seen; but behind these curtains, instead of a bed there was a library; and as to the real bed, it was a kind of folding couch of straw, with a slight mattress, and hidden from the view. Marcus Aurelius and Julian, the two greatest men among the Romans, and apostles of the Stoics, lay not on a harder bed.

Breakfast being over, the state affairs next were considered, and his first minister came with a large bundle of papers under his arm. This first minister was a clerk, who lodged up two pair of stairs in the house of Fudesdoff, and was the soldier, now valet de chambre and favourite, who had formerly served the King at Custrin. The secretaries of state sent all the dispatches to the King's clerks; they made extracts, which were brought to his Majesty by this person, and the King writ his answer in the margin in two words. The whole affairs of the kingdom were thus expedited in an hour, and seldom did the secretaries of state, or the ministers in office, come into his presence; nay, there were some to whom even he had never spoken. The King, his father, had put the finances under such exact regulations, all was executed in such a military manner, and obedience was so blind, that four hundred leagues were governed with as much ease as a manor.

About eleven o'clock, the King, booted, reviewed in his garden his regiment of guards; and at the same hour all the Colonels did the like throughout the provinces, in the interval of parade and dinner time.

When dinner was over he retired to his cabinet, and writ verses till five or six o'clock, when a young man of the name of Darget, formerly secretary to M. de Valory, the French envoy, came and read to him. At seven he had a little concert, at which he played the flute, and as well as the best performers. His own compositions were often among the pieces played, for there was no art he did not cultivate; and had he lived among the Greeks, he would not, like Epaminondas, have had the mortification to confess he did not understand music.

He supped in a little hall, the most singular ornament of which was a picture,

the ſubject of which was licentious in the higheſt degree. Any perſon who had heard the diſcourſe, and looked at this picture, would have ſuppoſed they had caught the ſeven ſages of Greece in a brothel.

Never was there a place in the world where liberty of ſpeech was ſo fully indulged, or where the various ſuperſtitions of men were treated with ſo great a degree of pleaſantry and contempt. God was reſpected; but thoſe who in his name had impoſed upon credulity, were not ſpared. Neither women nor prieſts ever entered the palace; and, in a word, Frederick lived without religion, without a council, and without a court.

Frederick governed the church with as much deſpotiſm as the ſtate. He pronounced the divorces himſelf when huſband and wife wanted to pair themſelves differently. A miniſter one day cited the Old Teſtament on the ſubject of divorces; and the King told him, Moſes managed the Jews juſt as he pleaſed; as for me, I muſt govern my Pruſſians to the beſt of my abilities.

Whether it was from policy or œconomy, I know not, but he never granted the leaſt kindneſs to any of his former favourites, eſpecially to thoſe who had riſked their lives for him when he was Prince Royal. He did not even pay the money he borrowed at that time. Like as Louis XII. would not revenge the affronts of the Duke d'Orleans, neither would the King of Pruſſia remember the debts of the Prince Royal.

His poor miſtreſs, who had ſuffered whipping for his ſake by the hands of the common hangman, was married at Berlin to the clerk of the hackney-coach office, for they had eighteen hackney-coaches at Berlin; and her royal lover allowed her a penſion of ſeventy crowns (eight pounds fifteen ſhillings) a year. She called herſelf Mademoiſelle Saumers, and was a tall meagre figure, very like one of the ſybils, without the leaſt appearance of meriting to be publicly whipped for a prince.

When, however, he was at Berlin, he made a great diſplay of magnificence on public days. It was a ſuperb ſpectacle for the vain, that is to ſay, for almoſt all mankind, to ſee him at table, ſurrounded with twenty princes of the empire, ſerved in veſſels of gold, the richeſt in Europe, by two and thirty pages, and as many young heiduques, all ſplendidly cloathed, and bearing diſhes of maſſy gold. The ſtate officers were alſo employed on theſe occaſions, though unknown at any other time.

The fineſt voices and beſt dancers were engaged in his ſervice. Barberina at that time danced at his theatre, the ſame who has ſince been married to the ſon of his Chancellor. He gave her a ſalary of 32,000 livres, (above 1300l.), which was more than he allowed to any three of his miniſters of ſtate together.

In the midſt of all theſe feaſts, operas, and ſuppers, my ſecret negotiation went forward: the King was willing I ſhould ſpeak on every thing; and I frequently took occaſion to intermix queſtions concerning France and Auſtria with the Eneid and Roman Hiſtory. The converſation was ſometimes animated; the King became warm, and would tell me, that while our Court was knocking at every door to procure peace, he ſhould not think it adviſeable to go to war in our defence. I ſent my reflections upon paper, left half blank, from my apartment to his; and he anſwered my daring remarks in the margin. I have this paper ſtill, in which I have ſaid,

Can it be doubted that the Houſe of Auſtria will ſeize the very firſt opportunity to redemand Sileſia? To which he anſwered in the magin,

Ils ſeront reçus, biribi,
A la façon de Barbari,
Mon ami.

Then they receiv'd, my friend, ſhall be
After the mode of Barbary.

This new kind of negotiation finiſhed by a diſcourſe, which, in one of his moments of vivacity, he made me againſt the King of England, his dear uncle. Theſe two Kings did not love one another. My Pruſſian Monarch told me, "George was the uncle of Frederick, but not of the King of Pruſſia;" and he ended by ſaying, "Let France declare war againſt England, and I will march."

This was all I wanted. I returned inſtantly to France, and gave an account of my journey; with ſuch hopes to the French miniſtry as had been given me at Berlin. Neither were they falſe, for the ſpring following the King of Pruſſia concluded a new treaty with France, and advanced into Bohemia with a hundred thouſand men, while the Auſtrians were in Alſatia.

Had I related my adventure to any good Pariſian, with the ſervice I had done the ſtate, he would not have made

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the leaſt doubt of my having been promiſed a good place. I will tell you what was my recompence. The Ducheſs de Chateauroux was vexed the negotiation had not been brought about entirely by her means; ſhe had likewiſe an inclination to have M. Amelot turned out, becauſe he ſtuttered, which trifling defect ſhe found offenſive; and ſhe further hated him, becauſe he was governed by M. de Maurepas: he was accordingly diſmiſſed eight days after, and I was included in his diſgrace. Upon the death of this lady, which happened in conſequence of the paſſions into which ſhe was thrown, at being diſmiſſed by the King, in a dangerous illneſs, ſhe was ſucceeded by Madame de Pompadour.

This new miſtreſs had been well educated, was prudent, amiable, very graceful, had great talents, a fine underſtanding, and a good heart.

I was tolerably intimate with her, and was even the confidant of her amours. She confeſſed to me, ſhe had always had a ſecret fore-thought that the King would fall in love with her.

After ſhe was certain of her royal lover, ſhe told me ſhe was firmly perſuaded of the doctrine of predeſtination, and ſhe had ſome cauſe ſo to be. I paſſed ſeveral months with her at Etiole, while the King made the campaign of 1746.

I hence obtained rewards which had never been granted to my works or my ſervices. I was deemed worthy to be one of the forty uſeleſs members of the Academy, was appointed Hiſtoriographer of France, and created by the King one of the gentlemen in ordinary of his chamber. From this I concluded it was better, in order to make the moſt trifling fortune, to ſpeak four words to a King's miſtreſs, than to write a hundred volumes.

My connection with Madame du Chatelet was never interrupted; our friendſhip, and our love of literature, were unalterable; we lived together both in town and out of town. Cirey is ſituated upon the borders of Lorraine, and King Staniſlaus at that time kept his little agreeable court at Luneville. On a viſit to that Prince, Madame du Chatelet died in his palace, after two days illneſs; and we were ſo affected, that not one of us ever remembered to ſend for prieſt, jeſuit, or any of the ſeven ſacraments. It was we, and not Madame du Chatelet, who felt the horrors of death. The good King Staniſlaus came to my chamber, and mixed his tears with mine: few of his brethren would have done ſo much on a like occaſion. He wiſhed me to ſtay at Luneville; but I could no longer ſupport the place, and returned to Paris.

It was my deſtiny to run from King to King, although I loved liberty even to idolatry. The King of Pruſſia, whom I had frequently given to underſtand I would never quit Madame du Chatelet for him, would abſolutely entrap me, now he was rid of his rival. He enjoyed at that time a peace, which he had purchaſed with victory; and his leiſure hours were always devoted to making verſes, or writing the hiſtory of his country and campaigns. He was well convinced, that in reality his verſe and proſe too, were ſuperior to my verſe and proſe, as to their eſſence; though, as to form, he thought there was a certain ſomething, a turn, that I, in quality of Academician, might give to his writings; and there was no kind of flattery, no ſeduction, he did not employ to engage me to come.

Who might reſiſt a Monarch, a Hero, a Poet, a Muſician, a Philoſopher, who pretended too to love me, and whom I thought I alſo loved. I ſet out once more for Potzdam, in the month of June 1750. Aſtolphus did not meet a kinder reception in the palace of Alcina. To be lodged in the ſame apartments that Marſhal Saxe had occupied; to have the royal cooks at my command, when I choſe to dine alone; and the royal coachmen, when I had an inclination to ride, were trifling favours.

I worked two hours a day with his Majeſty, corrected his works, and never failed highly to praiſe whatever was worthy of praiſe, although I rejected the droſs. I gave him details of all that was neceſſary in rhetoric and criticiſm, for his uſe: he profited by my advice; and his genius aſſiſted him more effectually than my leſſons.

I had no court to make, no viſits to pay, no duty to fulfil; I led the life of liberty, and had no conception of any thing more happy than my then ſituation.

Behold me then with a ſilver key gilt with gold hanging at my button-hole, a croſs round my neck, and 20,000 livres, or 800 guineas, a-year. Maupertuis felt ſick; and yet I did not perceive the occaſion.

At that time there was a phyſician at

Berlin, one La Metrie, who was the moſt frank and declared Atheiſt of all the phyſical people of Europe. He was a gay, pleaſant, thoughtleſs fellow. His writings pleaſed the King, who made him, not his phyſician, but his reader.

One day after the lecture, La Metrie, who ſpoke whatever came uppermoſt, told his Majeſty there were three perſons exceedingly jealous of my favour and fortune.—"Be quiet a while," ſaid Frederick, "we ſqueeze the orange, and throw it away when we have ſwallowed the juice."—La Metrie did not forget to repeat me this fine apohthegm, worthy Dionyſius of Syracuſe. From that time I determined to take all poſſible care of the orange-peel. I had about 12,000 guineas to place out at intereſt, but was determined it ſhould not be in the territories of my Alcina. I found an advantageous opportunity of lending them upon the eſtates which the Duke of Wurtemberg poſſeſſed in France.

On the death of La Metrie, which happened ſhortly after, Maupertuis, who knew the anecdote of the orange peel, took an opportunity to ſpread a report, that I had ſaid, the place of King's Atheiſt was vacant. This calumny did not ſucceed; but he afterwards added, I had alſo ſaid, the King's poetry was bad; and this anſwered his purpoſe.

From this time forward I found the King's ſuppers were no longer ſo merry; I had fewer verſes to correct, and my diſgrace was complete.

I ſent him back his order, his chamberlain's key, and his penſion; he then did every thing in his power to make me ſtay, and I every thing in my power to depart. He again gave me his croſs and his key, and would have me to ſup with him; I therefore once more ſupped like Democles, after which I parted with a promiſe to return, but with a firm deſign never to ſee him more. Four of us left him in a ſhort time, Chaſol, a Frenchman, one of his beſt officers, Darget, Algarotti, and I.

In fact, there was no ſuch thing as ſtaying. It is well known how much muſt be borne from Kings; but Frederick was too free in the abuſe of his prerogative. All ſociety has its laws, except the ſociety of the lion and the lamb. Frederick continually failed in the firſt of theſe laws; which is, to ſay nothing diſobliging of any of the company.

Polnitz and Dargens were often the objects of his illiberal raillery, and yet theſe two victims remained. Polnitz having waſted his fortune, was obliged to ſwallow ſerpents for bread, and had no other food; and d'Argens had no property in the world, but his Jewiſh Letters. As for Maupertuis, who had been ſilly enough to place out his money at Berlin, and not thinking a hundred piſtoles better in a free country than a thouſand in a deſpotic one, he had no choice but to wear the fetters which himſelf had forged.

[*To be continued.*]

Some Account of the late GEORGE ALEXANDER STEVENS.

THE late George Alexander Stevens was one of the moſt ſingular characters this or any other country ever bred: As an actor, his merit was below mediocrity; yet by an extraordinary effort of genius he acquired not only fame but affluence. He is the firſt inſtance that can be produced of the ſame perſon, by his writing and reciting, that could for the ſpace of four hours entertain an audience. His Lecture upon Heads, though attempted by ſeveral good actors, failed of producing the laugh excited when delivered by Stevens. After exhibiting it with great ſucceſs all through England, he viſited America, and was well received in all the capital towns. After an abſence of two years he returned to England, and ſoon after paid a viſit to Ireland. It cannot be wondered that Stevens and his lecture were admired by a people remarkable for their humour. His lecture, in the courſe of a few years, produced him near 10,000 l. the greateſt part of which melted from his hands before his death. He was the author of ſeveral of our beſt claſſical ſongs, and of ſeveral poetical pieces of merit. The firſt idea of his lecture he got at a village where he was the manager of a company, and met with a country mechanic, who deſcribed the members of the corporation with great force and humour; upon this idea Stevens improved, and was aſſiſted in making the heads by his friend, who little imagined what a ſource of profit he had eſtabliſhed.

The writer of this account received his information upon the ſubject from Mr Stevens, who for ſome years before his death loſt the uſe of his faculties.

PAR-

PARLIAMENT [p. 364.]

On July 16. the Houſe of Commons again reſolved into a committee on Mr Pitt's India regulating bill.

Capt. Cathcart was anxious to provide a clauſe that ſhould remedy the preſent defects in the military ſyſtem of India. He did not ſee any which had this for its object. He ſtated, that Sir John Burgoyne was at that moment under arreſt, and that the whole Indian ſyſtem was in confuſion. To provide a remedy againſt ſo great an evil, he would recommend, that the commanding officers in the different diſtricts ſhould be members of the councils on all occaſions, and by this means he would be maſter of the ſubject why and wherefore he was employed on any particular ſervice.

Mr Dundas ſaid, it was intended that the commanders in chief ſhould have a ſeat in the council; and all forces ſerving in the Eaſt Indies ſhould be the Company's, who ſhould likewiſe have the appointment of the commander in chief.

By this bill, the government of Bengal is to conſiſt of a Governor-General and three Counſellors, the Governor-General to have the caſting vote, and the Commander in Chief voice and precedence next the Governor-General.—That of Madras and Bombay, of a Governor, Preſident, and three Counſellors, the Commanders in Chief to have the like precedency in council as in Bengal.—When the Commander in Chief of Bengal happens to be on ſervice at Madras or Bombay, he is to have a ſeat and voice in the council of thoſe ſettlements, and their reſpective commanders are to continue to have ſeats but not voices.

The committee having gone through ſeveral clauſes, broke up.

On the 20th the committee went through more clauſes. The age of thoſe going out as cadets or writers was limited to between 16 and 22 years of age, except ſuch as had ſerved a year in any of his Majeſty's regiments, and were upon half pay; to them the age of 25 was limited.

On the 21ſt the committee proceeded. The clauſe which enacts, that perſons, upon their return to Britain, ſhould give in, upon oath, to the Barons of Exchequer, a ſchedule of their property; and thoſe going out to India ſhould be reſtricted from making more than 1000 l. *per ann.* above their expences, provided their ſalary did not exceed 3000 l. a-year, gave riſe to a converſation of ſome hours, but was carried.

Mr Ellis thought they ſhould declare what they were worth before going out, that a check might be made on the return of their wealth when they came home.

Mr Eden thought the clauſe objectionable for many reaſons. He did not deny but that a neceſſity exiſted for going ſome lengths more than ordinary to correct the abuſes complained of. He argued, that the friends of this inquiſitorial evidence ought to apply the ſame remedy to the abuſes in the Weſt Indies, and to thoſe who had the handling of money at home; the ſame principle that extended to one extended alſo to the others, tho' not in ſo preſſing a degree as to the one under conſideration.

Major Scott ſaid, that nineteen out of twenty perſons who went to India would be thoroughly ſatisfied at making 10,000 l. in ten years!!! [a loud laugh.]

By another clauſe, perſons returning before Jan. 1787 are exempted from the operation of the above clauſe.

Mr Sheridan ſaid, this was in fact an indemnity held out to all peculators, and a warning to them to return to England before the 1787.

Mr Dundas ſaid, though they ſhould be exempted from the neceſſity of taking an oath as to their property, it did not follow that they ſhould, if guilty, eſcape puniſhment: for his part, he ſhould deem haſty returns *prima facie* evidence that the perſons ſo returning were peculators, and therefore fit objects for trial.

The committee next proceeded to the clauſe which precludes from returning to India all perſons who had ſerved in that country, and after their return to England, ſhould have reſided here, or elſewhere in Europe, for the ſpace of unleſs they ſhould prove that they have returned on account of their health. Mr Pitt propoſed, that none ſhould be within the meaning of this clauſe, who had not ſerved, or exerciſed any authority in India, under the ſole appointment of the Company: this, he ſaid, would take the King's officers entirely out of the bill: And that the blank left for the time the Company's ſervants ſhould have reſided at home, and which ſhould amount to a diſability to return to India, ſhould be filled up with the words five years; but in order to accommodate himſelf to the wiſhes of ſome gentlemen, he propoſed that they ſhould not be

be abſolutely precluded from going out again; but that they might be capable of being reſtored with the conſent of the court of directors, and of three fourths of the court of proprietors. The clauſe as amended paſſed.

Mr Pitt ſaid, that the committee having at laſt got to the clauſe which related more immediately to the new judicature, he thought it his duty to ſay, that after various conſultations, he had judged it expedient to make ſome very material alterations, which he hoped would render it more palatable than it appeared at preſent. And, firſt, with reſpect to the queſtion, "who was to call for the proſecution of Eaſt-India delinquents?" According to the plan laid down in the bill, a proſecution might be carried on only by the Directors, or the Attorney-General.—This part he intended to alter; and he propoſed, that a trial might be moved for by any one in the court of King's Bench, when the court, after hearing arguments on both ſides, would ſee and determine whether a trial ſhould be granted or not; if the court ſhould grant it, then a commiſſion ſhould iſſue in that court, to take evidence in India, and be directed to the courts of juſtice in that country, ſo that the perſons might be properly examined before the judges; when the return of the commiſſioners ſhould have been made in the court of King's Bench, then, and not before, ſhould the Houſe of Commons ballot for the members who ſhould compoſe the new court; for that purpoſe he would propoſe that there ſhould be 200 members preſent to begin the ballot; and that each member ſhould give in a liſt of 40 names; and he propoſed that every name which ſhould be found in 20 liſts, ſhould be put into a glaſs; and the firſt 40 drawn out of it, ſhould be thoſe out of which ſix ſhould be choſen to ſit as judges. Every thing after this ſhould be conducted as in caſes of ſpecial juries: a day ſhould be appointed in the court of Exchequer, on which day, the 40 members whoſe names had been ſo drawn out of the glaſs, ſhould attend the court: to the accuſed ſhould be allowed a peremptory challenge of 20 names; and afterwards both parties ſhould be allowed to ſtrike off a name alternately, until the remaining 20 ſhould be reduced to *ſix*; and theſe ſix ſhould form part of the court. In order that every thing ſhould be conducted with the greateſt impartiality, he would diſqualify from ſerving in the court, or indeed for being ballotted at all, every ſervant of the Crown holding a place during pleaſure: As to the common law-judges, who ſhould aſſiſt on this occaſion, he would not propoſe that the King ſhould name them, as he had formerly intended; but he ſhould propoſe that each court ſhould chuſe one of its judges; and the four ſo choſen, ſhould be members of the new tribunal. This, with ſome proviſions for making the correſpondence of the Company's ſervants admiſſible evidence, though impeachable as to the truth of the facts ſtated in it, formed the outline of the plan for the new court of judicature. He then moved various clauſes to carry this plan into effect, which were agreed to; and the bill paſſed the committee.

On the 26th, the report from the committee was brought up and read, and the Speaker moved, that the amendments be agreed to. This gave riſe to a long debate; but the Houſe having gone through them, they were agreed to, and ſeveral others made. The bill was read a third time on the 28th, when Mr Burke entered his proteſt againſt it in name of the injured natives of India, whoſe grievances were to be inquired into and redreſſed—by thoſe who had occaſioned them. At half paſt twelve the bill was paſſed, and Mr Dundas ordered to carry it to the Lords. It there met with conſiderable oppoſition, particularly from Lords Carliſle and Stormont. It was read a third time, and paſſed, on Aug. 9. with amendments. Theſe amendments were agreed to by the Commons on the 12th. —It received the royal aſſent by commiſſion on the 13th.

The following proteſt was entered againſt this bill.

Diſſentient, Becauſe we think the principle of the bill falſe, unjuſt, and unconſtitutional; falſe, inaſmuch as it provides no effectual remedy for the evils it affects to cure; unjuſt, as it indiſcriminately compels all perſons returning from India to furniſh the means of accuſation and proſecution againſt themſelves; and unconſtitutional, becauſe it eſtabliſhes a new criminal court of judicature, in which the admiſſion of incompetent evidence is expreſsly directed, and the ſubject is unneceſſarily deprived of his moſt ineſtimable birthright, a trial by jury.

Portland. Carliſle. Devonſhire. Cholmondeley. Northington.

On

On July 21. Mr Pitt presented the following message from his Majesty, which was read by the Speaker, the members standing uncovered:

"GEORGE *Rex*,

It gives his Majesty great concern, that notwithstanding the retrenchments which have been already made in the establishment of the civil list, he finds himself under the necessity of acquainting the House of Commons, that debts have been incurred by the unavoidable expences of his civil government, to a considerable amount, an account of which he has ordered to be laid before this House.

His Majesty relies on the zeal and affection of his faithful Commons, that they will take the same into their early consideration, and provide such means as they shall think proper, to enable his Majesty to discharge the same. G. R."

The same was referred to a committee of supply; and on the 21st, Mr Pitt moved, that 60,000 l. be granted to enable his Majesty to discharge the debt incurred on the civil list, and to prevent arrears in future. A desultory conversation ensued: the money was granted *nem. con.*

The House, then, went into a committee of ways and means, and Mr Pitt stated, that he must once more trespass on their patience whilst he related to them the different articles he meant to tax to make good the deficiency there would be by his having given up the tax upon Coals. The sum meant to be raised by that tax made no inconsiderable figure in his list; of course, he must be obliged to fix upon some object that would not be easily evaded, and at the same time collected without much difficulty. He accordingly would propose as *fresh Taxes*.

First, a tax upon all *Letters conveyed by the post*. He intended that the price of postage should be raised in the proportion of *one penny* per stage This, where one penny only now is paid, would produce 6230 l. — where two pence is now paid, 8923 l. — where three pence, 33,963 l. — where four pence, 34,248 l. the cross roads, about 20,000 l. Scotland 4000 l. These sums would produce rather more than 100,000 l. While he was speaking of money to be raised on postage, he could not help saying something about the privilege of franking; it had more than once been proposed, on account of the exigencies of the state, that this privilege should be entirely taken away: he did not intend at present to go that length; but he thought that the abuse of that privilege called for the attention of the legislature. It was not his design to take away, in any degree, from the facility and convenience of intercourse between the representatives of the people and their constituents; but he wished to confine the privilege within its original and natural limits, and thereby to prevent the abuses which were daily committed, to the great injury of the revenue. He proposed that every member franking a cover, should write upon it the day of the month, and the name of the place from whence he sends it; and the cover should not go free, unless posted on the day marked on the outside. This regulation would not at all interfere with the real privilege of members, and yet would give the public a revenue of 20,000 l. the half of what is computed to be lost by the privilege of franking in its present unlimited state. Thus the whole of the sum to be raised by the post-office would amount to 120,000 l.

The next article was, an addition to the one on the qualification to kill game. On inquiring, he found that it would be advisable to double the sum on the *qualification*, and to halve the sum on the *deputation*; he therefore intended to make the stamp for the qualification 2 l. 2 s. and for the deputation 10 s. 6 d. which alteration would produce 10,000 l.

These two new regulations would, together, produce 130,000 l. but as he had agreed to give up the licence on hop grounds as well as the coals, the sum deficient would be 160,000 l. and as the new modelling several other of the taxes to make them more palatable would cause a defalcation, he should, instead of raising 160,000 l. endeavour to propose taxes to raise 200,000 l. bearing in mind that it was better to raise more than was wanted, as the deficiencies of taxes were always to be apprehended.

The next tax therefore that he should propose, was a tax upon *Plate*; and as the former tax on that article was found to be deficient, owing to evasions, he trusted the plan he had to propose would be free from that objection. On inquiry at Goldsmiths hall, he found that last year there was brought to be assayed 100,000 l. worth of silver plate, and 8000 l. worth of gold plate; he should take that as the average of the trade, and

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propoſe that all plate, when taken to the hall to be aſſayed, ſhould pay a duty, and have a particular ſtamp or mark upon it, to expreſs that the duty was paid. The ſilver he meant ſhould pay a duty of 6 d. per ounce, which would bring in 30,000 l. but as one quarter of it would be exported, and a drawback upon it, he ſhould eſtimate it only at 22,000 l. and the gold plate paying a duty of 8 s. per ounce, would bring in 3000 l. therefore together he ſhould take them at 25,000 l.

The next thing he propoſed, was an additional *Ale-Licence* on all retailers of ſpirits, &c. Every gentleman, he preſumed, would agree to the tax, as he muſt have been a witneſs to its being an object that could very well bear an addition. He therefore intended, that all perſons who now pay one guinea, ſhould pay an additional half guinea; which, on a moderate computation, would bring in the ſum of 30,000 l.

The laſt that he ſhould propoſe was a tax on a raw material; and as it was always reckoned good policy to tax the exportation of raw materials (as it prevented foreign countries from underſelling us), he made no doubt but every gentleman would agree with him in laying a duty of 1 l. 1 s. on every tun of *Lead* exported, which he would take only at 15,000 l.

Recapitulation.	L.
Poſt-office, -	120,000
Qualifications and Deputations,	10,000
Plate, - -	25,000
Ale-Licences, -	30,000
Lead, - -	15,000
L.	200,000

The reſolutions on the ſeveral taxes being agreed to, Mr Pitt ſaid, he had one tax more to propoſe, which he had omitted on the budget day, but which ſome gentlemen were of opinion, would fall only on thoſe who could very well afford to pay it. He then moved, that one guinea be paid for every horſe entered to run for any plate or other valuable conſideration.

Ld Surrey ſuggeſted, that this revenue might be levied in ſuch a manner, that the perſon paying it would rejoice at being called on for it, and propoſed that inſtead of a tax on entering the horſes, five guineas ſhould be paid by the winning horſe; this would in fact be equal to one guinea on every horſe, as would appear by the books kept by the clerks of the different courſes.

Mr Pitt returned his thanks to the Noble Lord for his ſuggeſtion, which he would inſtantly adopt, but ſtill without giving up his former idea; and therefore he propoſed, that in addition to the tax of one guinea paid on entering each horſe, the winning horſe ſhould pay five guineas. This raiſed a laugh againſt Ld Surrey, which was kept up by

Mr Sheridan, who alluding to the ſize of Mr Pitt, and of Ld Surrey, the former of whom is very ſlender, and the latter corpulent, ſaid, that the light weight had fairly won the race. He farther added, that though the Noble Lord might be ſatisfied to pay this additional tax, yet the other gentlemen of the turf might be induced to exclaim, *Jockey of Norfolk, be not ſo bold.*

This happy alluſion to the paſſage in Shakeſpeare, relative to the lines that were found in the tent of the firſt Howard, Duke of Norfolk, from whom Ld Surrey is deſcended, and to whoſe title he is heir-apparent, in the camp in Boſworth field, raiſed a very loud laugh, which laſted ſome minutes.

Ld Surrey, with much good humour, joined in it, and indeed renewed it, by ſaying, he was not ſorry the Rt Hon. Gentleman "had taken in the knowing ones." The motion, with the amendment, was carried without a diviſion.—Inſtead of the above an annual tax of *two guineas* was laid on every race-horſe.

On July 16. Mr Pitt brought in a bill to grant certain relief to the India Company, which was read a firſt time. The purport of the bill was, to allow the Company a further time for the payment of 923,500 l. due for cuſtoms, likewiſe to regulate their future dividends, and ſeveral other purpoſes.

In a committee, July 30. when the chairman read the clauſe relative to the payment of the duties due to the public, Mr Dempſter wiſhed to add, as an amendment, "on condition of their paying 5 per cent. intereſt." The reaſon of his making that motion was on the faireſt of principles; for, as government had been obliged to pay an intereſt for the money which they borrowed to lend the India Company, it was nothing but juſtice that the Company ſhould pay an equal intereſt.

Mr Pitt remarked, that the Company were not able; and therefore as the reſpite of the 923,519 l. 5 s. 2 d. was meant as a relief to them, it would not be ge-

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nerous to expect any intereſt.—The amendment was negatived, Ayes 3, Noes 82.

The bill was then read on until it came to the clauſe which is to allow the Company to make *a dividend of eight per cent.* during the time they are debtors for the above ſum, on which

Mr Pitt roſe, and remarked, that it might appear ſtrange to ſuffer them to make ſo large a dividend; but he had been informed that foreigners held a great part of the ſtock, and on the firſt notice of the dividend being lowered they were alarmed, and ſold out, which greatly affected the ſtocks; therefore, to ſupport credit, he ſhould move, that they be allowed to make the uſual dividend, notwithſtanding the ſituation of their affairs; which was agreed to.

On the third reading, Mr Eden remarked, that many gentlemen voted for the Company dividing eight per cent. on an idea that they were in a flouriſhing ſtate; but as they might ſee ſince that they were in an error, by their poverty being declared to be ſuch as not to be able to pay intereſt, he hoped ſuch gentlemen would now vote againſt either granting ſo large a dividend, or, if they allowed the dividend, vote for the Company paying intereſt for the ſame. He pointed out the abſurdity and duplicity of one moment ſtating them rich, to ſerve a particular purpoſe, and the next poor, to anſwer another.

Mr Pitt remarked, that the contraſting of the Company in two points of view, gave ample ſcope for the gentlemen in oppoſition to ſhew their ingenuity; but, in his opinion, their arguments went to nothing; for the plain ſimple ſtate of the caſe was, that it was neceſſary for the Company to make a dividend to ſupport their credit, and the credit of the Company was materially connected with the intereſt of the public.

Mr Fox gave his hearty diſſent to the bill. It was, he ſaid, ſo highly injurious to the public, that he could not let it paſs without expreſſing his utter abhorrence of the principle on which it was founded; it was to take away a large ſum of money from the public, merely for the purpoſe of letting the India Company make a dividend, which their own affairs, without it, would not juſtify; if it was abſolutely neceſſary for the ſalvation of their affairs, he ſhould have no objection to its being granted; but when he ſaw it was plainly for no other purpoſe than to make a large dividend, he muſt be againſt it. The public were obliged to have heavy and oppreſſive taxes laid on ſome of the moſt neceſſary articles of life, not for the ſupport of the ſtate, not to carry on a war, not to pay off any part of the national debt, not to ſatisfy the public creditors; in fact, not that the money ariſing from the taxes ſhould add to the revenue, and go into the public coffers, but that a ſet of men might divide the ſpoil, and enrich themſelves in a manner that their own affairs would not juſtify. If, therefore, the public could patiently put up with heavy, burdenſome, and oppreſſive taxes, to enrich a few individuals, all he could ſay was, that they were very patient indeed.

Mr Dundas contended, that one fourth part of the India Company's ſtock was held by foreigners; therefore if the dividend was lowered, of courſe the foreigners would ſell out, and greatly injure the credit of the Company.

Mr Courtney pointed out with great ſeverity the injuſtice of the bill, and declared that it was a private contract between the miniſter and the Eaſt India Company, that if they ſupported him, he would do ſuch meaſures as they thought proper. He deſired the Houſe to recollect, that the ſum given to the India Company by remiſſion of intereſt, amounted in all to 170,000 l. which was more than would be raiſed by the tax on candles.

Mr Fox propoſed two amendments, viz. that the Company pay five per cent. intereſt for the money due for duties, and that they divide only ſix per cent. both of which were negatived. The bill then paſſed, and was ordered to the Lords.

Their Lordſhips, Aug. 12. went into a committee of the whole Houſe on this bill; when a long debate took place, particularly between Lords Stormont and Thurlow. The former obſerved, that if the Company were poor, a dividend of *eight* per cent. was a robbery of the creditors of the Company; and if they were *rich*, there was no neceſſity of any bill for their *relief*. Theſe were facts ſo true, that they could not be done away by any argument founded on the baſis of reaſon, and ſupported by the principles of juſtice. But the matter came within a narrow compaſs. Were the Company in diſtreſs? Yes. Were they now in more diſtreſs than when they made a dividend

propoſe that all plate, when taken to the hall to be aſſayed, ſhould pay a duty, and have a particular ſtamp or mark upon it, to expreſs that the duty was paid. The ſilver he meant ſhould pay a duty of 6 d. per ounce, which would bring in 30,000 l. but as one quarter of it would be exported, and a drawback upon it, he ſhould eſtimate it only at 22,000 l. and the gold plate paying a duty of 8 s. per ounce, would bring in 3000 l. therefore together he ſhould take them at 25,000 l.

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L.	200,000

The reſolutions on the ſeveral taxes being agreed to, Mr Pitt ſaid, he had one tax more to propoſe, which he had omitted on the budget day, but which ſome gentlemen were of opinion, would fall only on thoſe who could very well afford to pay it. He then moved, that one guinea be paid for every horſe entered to run for any plate or other valuable conſideration.

Ld Surrey ſuggeſted, that this revenue might be levied in ſuch a manner, that the perſon paying it would rejoice at being called on for it, and propoſed that inſtead of a tax on entering the horſes, five guineas ſhould be paid by the winning horſe; this would in fact be equal to one guinea on every horſe, as would appear by the books kept by the clerks of the different courſes.

Mr Pitt returned his thanks to the Noble Lord for his ſuggeſtion, which he would inſtantly adopt, but ſtill without giving up his former idea; and therefore he propoſed, that in addition to the tax of one guinea paid on entering each horſe, the winning horſe ſhould pay five guineas. This raiſed a laugh againſt Ld Surrey, which was kept up by

Mr Sheridan, who alluding to the ſize of Mr Pitt, and of Ld Surrey, the former of whom is very ſlender, and the latter corpulent, ſaid, that the light weight had fairly won the race. He farther added, that though the Noble Lord might be ſatisfied to pay this additional tax, yet the other gentlemen of the turf might be induced to exclaim, *Jockey of Norfolk, be not ſo bold.*

This happy alluſion to the paſſage in Shakeſpeare, relative to the lines that were found in the tent of the firſt Howard, Duke of Norfolk, from whom Ld Surrey is deſcended, and to whoſe title he is heir-apparent, in the camp in Boſworth field, raiſed a very loud laugh, which laſted ſome minutes.

Ld Surrey, with much good humour, joined in it, and indeed renewed it, by ſaying, he was not ſorry the Rt Hon. Gentleman "had taken in the knowing ones." The motion, with the amendment, was carried without a diviſion.—Inſtead of the above an annual tax of *two guineas* was laid on every race-horſe.

On July 16. Mr Pitt brought in a bill to grant certain relief to the India Company, which was read a firſt time. The purport of the bill was, to allow the Company a further time for the payment of 923,500 l. due for cuſtoms, likewiſe to regulate their future dividends, and ſeveral other purpoſes.

In a committee, July 30. when the chairman read the clauſe relative to the payment of the duties due to the public, Mr Dempſter wiſhed to add, as an amendment, "on condition of their paying 5 per cent. intereſt." The reaſon of his making that motion was on the fairеſt of principles; for, as government had been obliged to pay an intereſt for the money which they borrowed to lend the India Company, it was nothing but juſtice that the Company ſhould pay an equal intereſt.

Mr Pitt remarked, that the Company were not able; and therefore as the reſpite of the 923,519 l. 5 s. 2 d. was meant as a relief to them, it would not be ge-

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nerous to expect any intereſt.—The amendment was negatived, Ayes 3, Noes 61.

The bill was then read on until it came to the clauſe which is to allow the Company to make *a dividend of eight per cent.* during the time they are debtors for the above ſum, on which

Mr Pitt roſe, and remarked, that it might appear ſtrange to ſuffer them to make ſo large a dividend; but he had been informed that foreigners held a great part of the ſtock, and on the firſt notice of the dividend being lowered they were alarmed, and ſold out, which greatly affected the ſtocks; therefore, to ſupport credit, he ſhould move, that they be allowed to make the uſual dividend, notwithſtanding the ſituation of their affairs; which was agreed to.

On the third reading, Mr Eden remarked, that many gentlemen voted for the Company dividing eight per cent. on an idea that they were in a flouriſhing ſtate; but as they might ſee ſince that they were in an error, by their poverty being declared to be ſuch as not to be able to pay intereſt, he hoped ſuch gentlemen would now vote againſt either granting ſo large a dividend, or, if they allowed the dividend, vote for the Company paying intereſt for the ſame. He pointed out the abſurdity and duplicity of one moment ſtating them rich, to ſerve a particular purpoſe, and the next poor, to anſwer another.

Mr Pitt remarked, that the contraſting of the Company in two points of view, gave ample ſcope for the gentlemen in oppoſition to ſhew their ingenuity; but, in his opinion, their arguments went to nothing; for the plain ſimple ſtate of the caſe was, that it was neceſſary for the Company to make a dividend to ſupport their credit, and the credit of the Company was materially connected with the intereſt of the public.

Mr Fox gave his hearty diſſent to the bill. It was, he ſaid, ſo highly injurious to the public, that he could not let it paſs without expreſſing his utter abhorrence of the principle on which it was founded; it was to take away a large ſum of money from the public, merely for the purpoſe of letting the India Company make a dividend, which their own affairs, without it, would not juſtify; if it was abſolutely neceſſary for the ſalvation of their affairs, he ſhould have no objection to its being granted; but when he ſaw it was plainly for no other purpoſe than to make a large dividend, he muſt be againſt it. The public were obliged to have heavy and oppreſſive taxes laid on ſome of the moſt neceſſary articles of life, not for the ſupport of the ſtate, not to carry on a war, not to pay off any part of the national debt, not to ſatisfy the public creditors; in fact, not that the money ariſing from the taxes ſhould add to the revenue, and go into the public coffers, but that a ſet of men might divide the ſpoil, and enrich themſelves in a manner that their own affairs would not juſtify. If, therefore, the public could patiently put up with heavy, burdenſome, and oppreſſive taxes, to enrich a few individuals, all he could ſay was, that they were very patient indeed.

Mr Dundas contended, that one fourth part of the India Company's ſtock was held by foreigners; therefore if the dividend was lowered, of courſe the foreigners would ſell out, and greatly injure the credit of the Company.

Mr Courtney pointed out with great ſeverity the injuſtice of the bill, and declared that it was a private contract between the miniſter and the Eaſt India Company, that if they ſupported him, he would do ſuch meaſures as they thought proper. He deſired the Houſe to recollect, that the ſum given to the India Company by remiſſion of intereſt, amounted in all to 170,000 l. which was more than would be raiſed by the tax on candles.

Mr Fox propoſed two amendments, viz. that the Company pay five per cent. intereſt for the money due for duties, and that they divide only ſix per cent. both of which were negatived. The bill then paſſed, and was ordered to the Lords.

Their Lordſhips, Aug. 12. went into a committee of the whole Houſe on this bill; when a long debate took place, particularly between Lords Stormont and Thurlow. The former obſerved, that if the Company were poor, a dividend of *eight* per cent. was a robbery of the creditors of the Company; and if they were *rich*, there was no neceſſity of any bill for their *relief*. Theſe were facts ſo true, that they could not be done away by any argument founded on the baſis of reaſon, and ſupported by the principles of juſtice. But the matter came within a narrow compaſs. Were the Company in diſtreſs? Yes. Were they now in more diſtreſs than when they made a dividend

leſs than that which the preſent now allowed them to do? No. Under what pretence then, under what policy, or rule of juſtice, by what argument of honour, of truth, of probity, was it inſiſted that they ſhould ſhare more in the hour of poverty, than in the days of affluence? This was ſuch a contradiction in terms, in fact, in policy, and in mercantile honeſty, that it muſt, if acceded to, go forward into the world as one of the moſt groſs impoſitions on common ſenſe that ever diſgraced the parliament of England.

Lord Thurlow, in reply, went principally to this point, that all great companies were ſupported by credit, and that artificial credit was as neceſſary with them as with banking houſes. Their property was a floating one, and it was a great ſtake; and therefore they were not to hang out to the world, their momentary diſtreſſes in black colours of general bankruptcy, when at the bottom there was an eſtate more than adequate to anſwer every deficiency. His Lordſhip paid many compliments to Lord Stormont. He ſaid, he knew him to be a man of buſineſs—a man of extenſive knowledge, an able and diligent officer, who was as well acquainted with the world, and with what ought to be done, as any perſon in his Majeſty's dominions. But the Noble Viſcount took up the matter with too much prejudice, and argued it too forcibly in logic, to combat the rules of general opinion.

Lord Stormont replied, that the logic in the preſent queſtion was very ſimple, and muſt be underſtood by any body. The preſent adminiſtration ſtood exactly in this predicament: They enforced ſeveral tax bills to grind the face of the poor, to ſnatch from the hard earnings of induſtry, a part of what the ſweat of its brow gained for the ſuſtenance of nature, under the excuſe of ſupplying the wants of the ſtate; and this they did almoſt in the very moment when they were allowing the debtors—the inſolvent debtors of the public, by act of parliament, to ſhare that very money ſo exacted from the diſtreſſed inhabitants of this country. Could the Noble Lord ſay this was juſtice? No! indeed.

Lord Thurlow made a ſhort reply.—Next day, the 13th, the bill was agreed to by the Houſe.

In the Houſe of Commons, July 28. the Attorney-General gave an account of the crouded ſtate of the ſeveral goals, and mentioned that great numbers of convicts were on the river, becauſe they could not be ſent to America, where there was now no Britiſh territory, except Nova Scotia and Canada, the conveying them to which places was attended with great difficulty; and as ſome of the judges were in doubt, whether they could tranſport convicts to places that were not actually within the Britiſh dominions, he would move for leave to bring in a bill for reducing into one law all acts relating to tranſportable convicts, and for enabling the criminal courts to diſpoſe of them, either by keeping them to labour, or ſending them abroad, without ſpecifying whether they ſhould be landed on the Britiſh ſettlements or elſewhere.

Mr Eden did not conceive the gaols required the interference of the legiſlature, as far as he was able to judge.

The Attorney General was of a different opinion: he ſaid, if ſome remedy was not applied, the calamities he apprehended, would probably ſoon happen, and he would not trouble the Houſe on the occaſion, if the Hon. Gentleman would engage to take care of three or four hundred that were now in Newgate, who muſt ſhortly be diſpoſed of ſome way or other.

Mr Taylor ſaid, the ſtate of Newgate was really a ſhock to the feelings of humanity, and concurred with the laſt ſpeaker.

Lord North obſerved, he was ſurpriſed to hear of a law originating in this Houſe, to ſend out culprits to other countries than our own: ſurely we ought to require the conſent of the powers to which that country belongs, before we favour them with ſuch donations.

Mr Burke was ſurpriſed to hear ſo much aſſerted without any proofs or informations being laid before the Houſe; ſurely there was no obſtacle to export the cargoes to Nova Scotia, Canada, or Newfoundland: he profeſſed himſelf a friend to export-trade, and why not conſult contractors? The Weſt-India iſlands would take ſome off our hands. Our government paid ſome thouſands to Weſt-India traders to rid us of thoſe gentry; afterwards they were carried out gratis, and it was an advantage to get the loading.

The Attorney-General appealed to the conviction of gentlemen around him, who

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ſaw the wretched and dangerous ſituation of all the priſons through the country, which were over-filled through the inability of the judges to commute the ſentences of criminals, who could not be diſpoſed of otherwiſe, than by enlarging them, and turning them looſe on the country. The ſituation of the county of Devon, where 150 convicts had eſcaped from on board the veſſel carrying them to Africa, was a recent and an alarming inſtance.——The queſtion was then carried for bringing in the bill.

On July 28. Mr Pitt moved, in lieu of the duty on ribbons, a tax upon raw ſilk of 3 s. per lb. of 24 ounces, imported, and 2 s. per lb. of thrown ſilk of 16 ounces, imported; which was agreed to.

He then propoſed, that every dealer in hats ſhould take out a licence; thoſe in London, Weſtminſter, and Southwark, a licence of 40 s. per ann. thoſe in other cities and towns, a licence of 20 s. and thoſe in villages, not market-towns, a licence of 10 s. And that the duty on hats ſhould be as follows: On all hats of the value of 4 s. or under, *three pence*; above 4 s. and under 7 s. *ſixpence*; above 7 s. and under 12 s. *one ſhilling*; and all above 12 s. *two ſhillings*. Theſe propoſitions were adopted.

Mr Roſe, July 30. moved, that the preſent duties on wax candles (8 d. per lb.) do ceaſe; and that 3 d. per pound avoirdupois be laid on all wax candles, and 2 d. on every lb. of wax imported; likewiſe 2 d. per lb. on ſpermaceti candles; which were agreed to. Theſe regulations would, he ſaid, bring in as much, if not more than the preſent duties, and the public ſerved cheaper. He then moved, "That every maker of wax candles do pay annually 5 l. for a licence, and every dealer in wax candles 5 s. for a licence." Theſe motions were alſo agreed to.

Mr Burke then roſe, and gave a long hiſtory of India: he entered into a juſtification of the reports of the ſecret and ſelect committees, by which, he ſaid, it was plain, that the affairs of the Company were in a ſtate of ruin, owing to the miſconduct of their ſervants abroad. He informed the Houſe, that by the moſt authentic accounts from India, there was a famine in Oude; and ſo apprehenſive was the government of Bengal of the like calamity, that they had come to a reſolution not to ſuffer the exportation of rice, or other proviſions. He had ſeen a letter, he ſaid, which mentioned that Almas Ali Cawn, a native of Oude, and who was a perſon of conſequence, had been, by the orders of a ſervant of the Company, betrayed, ſeized, taken priſoner, and put to death, without any charge, trial, or condemnation, merely becauſe it was to anſwer a political purpoſe. He had likewiſe ſeen an account, which ſtated that Princeſſes, and other females, who formerly lived in happineſs, ſplendour, and eaſe, had been ſeized, their property taken from them, and they turned into the ſtreets to beg, in miſery and want. He mentioned a variety of other cruelties which had been practiſed by the orders of the chief ſervant of the company, whom the natives, from his behaviour, had named Haman Abdowla; and it was a melancholy truth, that the natives were not deceived, when they expreſſed that Haman Abdowla muſt be ſupported from England, or he never could dare to take ſuch ſteps as he did. That Haman Abdowla was ſupported, was plain by the bill that had lately paſſed the Houſe, for it was modelled juſt as his agents choſe; and the India bench, which was properly placed near but above the treaſury bench, (the treaſury bench being under its control), were able to do as they pleaſed. He ſtated, that the reſources which the India company built their hopes on, were founded on the plunder that was expected, and not on the fair and juſt profits of commerce. He alſo ſtated ſome particulars relative to the articles of ſalt and rice; and concluded with moving, "That there be laid before the Houſe copies of all papers relative to the ſeizing and putting to death Almas Ali Cawn, a native of the province of Oude;" which was ſeconded by Mr Sheridan.

Mr Pitt could not ſee to what end the motion could lead, but had no objection to its being made; it was accordingly agreed to.

Major Scott ſaid, he was glad to hear the Rt Hon. Gentleman make the motion; but he believed he was miſtaken as to the fact relative to Almas Ali Cawn, and explained to the Houſe ſome particulars reſpecting the ſteps that had been taken in Oude in replacing the Vizier, and fixing guarantees for the payment of certain debts due to the company. With reſpect to the famine, he was happy to ſay that by ſome rains, which had lately

fallen in the upper parts of Hindoſtan, the crops were much better than was expected, and the dreadful famine was much abated; rice was at the rate of 60 pounds weight for a rupee, and ſalt was cheaper than the average had been for the laſt twenty years. He complained, that his evidence before the ſelect committee had been garbled, and that he complained of it at the time in a letter to Gen. Smith, who was chairman; he alſo ſtated, that the two reports contained groſs and indecent libels on truth, which he could and would fairly prove whenever opportunity ſuited.

Mr Burke replied with great ſeverity, and declared, that the evidence might be ſhortened, but was by no means garbled; therefore, if he thought himſelf aggrieved, let him appeal to the original minutes, wherein he would find the reports were faithful extracts. He concluded with moving, "That there be laid before the Houſe copies of all papers relative to the ſums of money demanded of the mother and grandmother of the Souba of Oude, in the year 1782."

Major Scott ſeconded the motion, as he wiſhed the matter ſhould be fairly diſcuſſed.

Mr Burke then, after a ſhort preface, moved, "That there be laid before the Houſe the produce of the ſale of the jewels, and other property taken from the grandmother and mother of the Souba of Oude."

Mr Pitt objected to the motion, as he could not ſee to what end it led, nor did he perceive that there was any thing before the Houſe which warranted the motion, nor could he tell if the motion was agreed to, who was to furniſh the papers.

Mr Burke roſe, and in the moſt animated manner pointed out the cruelty that had been practiſed on thoſe females, merely becauſe they were poſſeſſed of property which Mr Haſtings had ſeized on, as he ſaid, for the India Company; but there was about 300,000l. unaccounted for; therefore it was the duty of the Houſe to inſpect into the matter, and ſtop the iniquitous proceeding. Mr Burke was proceeding, when

Mr Pitt roſe, and moved the order of the day.

Mr Burke directly roſe, and feeling himſelf hurt at the abrupt manner in which he was treated, arreſted the attention of the Houſe, by appealing to their feelings in the moſt pathetic manner, and reminding them that there was a God, who ſaw and knew all their proceedings, and who puniſhed their iniquity, not always in the place directly where the rapine and murder was committed, but in other parts of the kingdom; and we might attribute the loſs of America, and the miſery at home, as puniſhments of the Almighty for our evil and corrupt dealings to the innocent natives of Hindoſtan. As they would not hear the remainder of his motions, he would read them as a part of his ſpeech, which he did, and they went to lay before the Houſe information of different cruelties practiſed in India, and the ſtate of the Company's finances in that part.

Mr Le Meſurier defended the India Company, who were not the infamous ſet of men, he ſaid, ſo wantonly deſcribed by the Rt Hon. Gentleman.

Mr Dempſter ſaid, he had a perſonal regard for Mr Haſtings; and therefore, as he was in hopes his conduct would bear the teſt, he could wiſh to ſee a committee appointed to inquire into his character.—The motion for the order of the day was carried.

Mr Pitt, this day, preſented to the Houſe the bill for laying an additional duty on windows, in lieu of the reduction of the duties on teas. The bill was read a firſt time, and ordered to be read a ſecond time on Aug. 2. It was accordingly read again on that day, and ordered to be printed.

Bad effects of Noſegays in cloſe bedchambers.

THE learned Dr Heiſter, of Gottingen, many years ſince conjectured that ſeveral perſons who died ſuddenly in the night-time, loſt their lives from the vapours which exhaled from large noſegays placed in cloſe bedchambers. The preſent celebrated Dr Ingenhouz has juſt confirmed this doctrine, and requeſts thoſe who have any doubts upon the point to try an eaſy experiment; which is, to ſhut up a ſmall bunch of flowers under a glaſs bell in the night, taking care to put a little water on the diſh on which the bell reſts, to prevent all communication between the external air and that under the bell. The flowers will be found to have ſuffered nothing, but they will have corrupted the air in which they have been ſhut up, in proportion to the volume of the plants compared with the volume of the air on which they have acted; and alſo in proportion to the nature of the plants. A candle put into this air will go out; and a common plant ſhut up with a volume of air ten times larger than itſelf, will make it ſo deſtructive as to kill an animal in a few ſeconds.

NEW

NEW BOOKS.

The Origin and Progreſs of Writing, as well Hieroglyphic as Elementary, illuſtrated by engravings taken from marbles, manuſcripts, and charters, ancient and modern. Alſo, ſome account of the origin and Progreſs of Printing. By Thomas Aſtle, Eſq; F. R. S. F. S. A. and Keeper of the Records in the Tower of London. 4to.

AFter ſtating, in the Introduction, and in ſome meaſure aſcertaining the utility of the *Diplomatic Science*, by which we are "enabled to form a proper judgement of the age and authenticity of manuſcripts, charters, and other records of antiquity," our author takes a ſhort view of the irreparable loſſes ſuſtained by the deſtruction of the works of the ancients, from the ravages committed in Egypt, Phœnicia, &c. by Occhus, 350 years before Chriſt, to the fire that happened in the Cottonian Library in 1732; exemplifies the mutilated ſtate in which ſeveral celebrated authors have been tranſmitted to us, and relates the events and circumſtances that have contributed to the revival and reſtoration of learning, from the Arabians in the eighth, to the taking of Conſtantinople in the fifteenth century, and recapitulates the principal MS. libraries in Europe. Mr Aſtle afterwards gives the following account of his own work:

"The 1ſt and 2d chapters are founded on principles of philoſophy, ſupported by facts, deduced from the hiſtories of different nations."

In this chapter Mr Aſtle explodes the opinion of ſeveral reſpectable writers, as Bp Warburton, M. Fourmont, Gebelin, and others, that letters are derived from hieroglyphic repreſentations; and he clearly diſtinguiſhes between the one and the other.

The author's definition of writing, which is new, is as follows:

"Writing is the art of exhibiting to the ſight the various conceptions of the mind, by means of *marks*, or characters, ſignificant of the ſounds of language, which enable us to tranſfer ideas from the eye to the ear, and *vice verſa*. For example: if I read,—the ideas of the author are impreſſed upon my mind through the medium of ſight by the *marks* for ſounds; and theſe ideas are impreſſed upon the minds of the auditors, through the ſenſe of hearing. On the other hand, if I dictate to an amanuenſis, *my ideas* are conveyed to him through the medium of ſounds ſignificant, which he draws into viſion by the means of *marks ſignificant of thoſe ſounds.*"

We cannot give a better ſpecimen of our author's manner, or on a more important ſubject, than the following:

"The firſt mention of *writing* recorded in Scripture will be found in Exod. xvii. 14. "*And the* LORD *ſaid unto Moſes, Write this, for a memorial, in a book; and rehearſe it in the ears of Joſhua; for I will utterly put out the remembrance of Amalek from Heaven.*" This command was given immediately after the defeat of the Amalekites near Horeb, and before the arrival of the Iſraelites at Mount Sinai.

It is obſervable, that there is not the leaſt hint to induce us to believe that writing was then newly invented; on the contrary, we may conclude, that Moſes underſtood what was meant by *writing in a book*; otherwiſe God would have inſtructed him, as he had done Noah in building the ark; for he would not have been commanded to *write* in a *book*, if he had been *ignorant of the art of writing*: but Moſes expreſſed no difficulty of comprehenſion when he received this command. We alſo find that Moſes *wrote* all the words and all the judgements of the Lord, contained in the 21ſt and the two following chapters of Exodus, before the two written tables of ſtone were even ſo much as *promiſed**. The delivery of the tables is not mentioned till the 18th verſe of the 31ſt chapter, after God had made an end of communing with him upon the mount, tho' the ten commandments were promulgated immediately after his third deſcent.

It is obſervable, that Moſes no where mentions that the alphabet was a *new thing* in his time, much leſs that he was the inventor of it; on the contrary, he ſpeaks of the art of writing as a thing well known, and in familiar uſe; for, Exod. xxviii. 21. he ſays, "And the ſtones ſhall be with the names of the children, TWELVE; according to their names, *like the engravings of a ſignet*, every one with his name, ſhall they be, according to the twelve tribes."——And

* "And *Moſes wrote* all the words of the Lord," &c. Exod xxiv. 4—"And he took the book of the covenant, and *read* it in the audience of the people; and they ſaid, "All that the LORD hath ſaid, we will do, and be obedient." Ibid. v. 7.

again,

again, ver. 36: "And thou ſhalt make a plate of pure gold, and *grave* upon it, *like* the engravings of a ſignet, HOLINESS TO THE LORD." Can language be more expreſſive? Would it not be abſurd to deny that this ſentence muſt have been in *words* and *letters*? But writing was known and practiſed by the people in general in the time of Moſes, as appears from the following texts: Deut. vi. 9.; xi. 20.; xvii 18.; xxiv. 1.; xxvii. 3. 8. By this laſt text, the people are commanded to *write* the law on ſtones; and it is obſervable, that ſome of the above texts relate to tranſactions *previous* to the delivery of the law at Mount Sinai.

If Moſes had been the *inventor* of the alphabet, or received letters from God, which till then had been unknown to the Iſraelites, it would have been well worthy of his underſtanding, and very ſuitable to his character, to have explained to them the nature and uſe of this invaluable art which God had communicated to him; and may we not naturally ſuppoſe that he would have ſaid, when he directed the workmen to engrave names and ſentences on ſtones and gold, "And in theſe engravings you ſhall uſe the alphabetic characters which God hath communicated to me, or which I have now invented, and taught you the uſe of?" But the truth is, he refers them to a model in familiar uſe, "*like the engravings of a ſignet*;" for the ancient people of the Eaſt engraved names and ſentences on their ſeals, in the ſame manner as is now practiſed by the great Lama of Tartary, the Princes in India, the Emperor of Conſtantinople, and his ſubordinate rulers *."

* "Pliny, l. 32. c. 1. informs us, that the Oriental nations and the Egyptians made uſe of letters only upon their ſignets. The Induſtrious authors of the Nouveau Traité de Diplomatique, vol. 4. p. 75, ſay, "That the ancient kings of Perſia and the Turkiſh emperors did the like" The learned abbot of Claraval, Monſieur Du Pin, in his Univerſal Hiſtorical Library, p. 21. ſupports theſe authorities; and adds, "that there is an infinite number of ancient and modern ſtones thus engraven, which were uſed for ſignets." That ſignets were uſed by the Hebrews before they went into Egypt, we learn from Gen. xxxviii. 18.; where it appears, that Judah gave Thamar his ſignet, &c.; and it is reaſonable to ſuppoſe that this ſignet was ſimilar to thoſe uſed by the Iſraelites, and the other neighbouring nations."

On the whole, the Phœnicians ſeem to him to have the beſt claim to the honour of the invention of letters, *Phœnices primi*, &c.

Mr Aſtle thus proceeds in his preface:

"In the 3d chapter, which treats of the antiquity of writing, it was neceſſary to have recourſe to the moſt ancient hiſtorians, both ſacred and prophane; the latter of which are ſo involved in fable, that it was extremely difficult to ſeparate the ore from the droſs. However, the moſt reſpectable authors have been conſulted, from whom we have ſelected ſuch evidence as appeared to be moſt rational, and to deſerve the moſt credit. Several particulars concerning the civilization of ancient nations occur in the courſe of this chapter, which may appear intereſting, not only to the hiſtorian and antiquary, but alſo to the philoſopher.

In the 4th chapter, it appears, that all alphabets were not derived from OSE, but that moſt of thoſe now uſed are derived from the Phœnician. This chapter contains a general *account* of ſuch as are ſuppoſed to have ariſen from that ſource; which furniſhes many important facts relative to the hiſtory, population, and the progreſs of arts and ſciences, of the moſt celebrated nations.

The 5th chapter contains the hiſtory of writing in different ages and countries, proved from ancient inſcriptions, manuſcripts, and other authentic documents, of which engraved ſpecimens are given, and ſeveral rules are laid down, which may enable our readers to judge of their age and authenticity. This chapter neceſſarily contains much ancient hiſtory, and eſtabliſhes many important truths, hitherto little known or attended to.

The hiſtory of Writing in England is very copious, and a great number of authentic documents are engraven for the information of our readers. The writing which prevailed in this iſland from the time the Romans left it till the Norman Conqueſt, I have divided into *five* kinds, namely, *Roman Saxon*, *Set Saxon*, *Running-hand Saxon*, *Mixt Saxon*, *and Elegant Saxon*; from this laſt deſcended what hath been called the *Monkiſh Engliſh*, a ſpecies of writing uſually termed *Modern Gothic*, which was peculiar to this kingdom; various ſpecimens of which are given in the ſecond column of the twenty ſeventh plate. The writing uſed by the Engliſh Lawyers, when they

they wrote in their own tongue, is partly derived from the ſame ſource, and partly from another, which next ſhall be mentioned.

William I. introduced into this country corrupted *Lombardic letters*, which before his time had prevailed in France, Italy, Spain, Portugal, and ſome other parts of Europe; this hath been called by us *Norman Writing*, and was generally uſed in England for grants, charters, and law proceedings, more than two centuries and a half after the Conqueſt; many ſpecimens of Norman writing are given in the twenty-third and in the two following plates.

From the twelfth century, till after the invention of printing, the Eccleſiaſtics in this country, as well natives as foreigners, uſed the modern Gothic characters, *when they wrote the Latin language*; which characters were generally uſed by the *Eccleſiaſtics and Schoolmen* in moſt parts of Europe."—Particular attention is paid to the writing practiſed in the northern parts of Scotland, and in Ireland; and ſeveral ſpecimens of MSS. in the Gaelic and Iberno Celtic language are given; and alſo an account of the writing which was practiſed in other parts of Europe, from the earlieſt times till the invention of printing.

The author controverts what has been advanced by former writers reſpecting the forms of letters, and ſhews that they do not derive their powers from the *forms*, but from the ſounds, of which they are ſignificant. In the courſe of this chapter many precious remains of antiquity, and many ancient records, are now firſt brought to light; Mr Aſtle, in particular, is the firſt who hath thus divided the ancient writing which prevailed in England. The tales and fables fabricated by the Iriſh antiquaries he hath alſo ably exploded.

Norman writing, ſo called, is ſhewn to be a corrupt ſpecies of Lombardic; and writing in France, from A. D. 700 to 1050, was like that of England.

The 6th chapter treats of the writing of the *Chineſe*, and of various *Characters* and *Literary Signs*, uſed both by the ancients and moderns for brevity, expedition, or ſecrecy. The facts which appear in the courſe of this chapter fully confirm the doctrine laid down in the ſecond and fourth chapters, *that all marks whatever are ſignificant by compact, and that* LETTERS *do not derive their powers from their forms*, but from *the ſounds which men have agreed to annex to them.*

The 7th chapter treats of *Numerals*, and of *Numeral Characters*, which were probably uſed before letters.

The 8th chapter treats of the *Librarii*, *Notarii*, and *Antiquarii*, among the Ancients; of *Paintings* and *Ornaments*; of the *materials* for writing upon; of *Inſtruments* for writing with; and ſome account of *Inks*, both ancient and modern.

The 9th chapter contains ſome account of the origin and progreſs of Printing.

Some of the drawings from whence the engravings are taken were done at the expence of Edward Earl of Oxford, under the direction of the learned Dr Hickes, and Mr Humphrey Wanley, librarian to the Earl, and a perſon well verſed in ancient MSS. Theſe drawings were purchaſed at the ſale of the MSS. of the late James Weſt, Eſq; and are now in my library; but by far the greateſt part I ſelected from original manuſcripts, charters, and other ancient documents."

This work, it is needleſs to add, will fully eſtabliſh Mr Aſtle's literary fame, and will tranſmit his name with luſtre to poſterity. The engraved ſpecimens of ancient MSS. &c. (of which there are thirty-one plates) are extremely well executed by Meſſ. Longmate and Pouncey. *Gent. Mag.*

The Hiſtory of Ayder Ali Khan, Nabob-Bahader; or, New Memoirs concerning the Eaſt Indies. With hiſtorical notes. By M. M. D. L. F. General of 10,000 *men in the army of the Mogul empire, and formerly commander in chief of the artillery of Ayder Ali, and of a body of European troops in the ſervice of that Nabob. In two volumes.*

THE author of theſe memoirs, a Frenchman, profeſſes to ſpeak with certainty of the things which he had ſeen himſelf, but does not pretend to vouch for the facts which he could only learn from the information of others.

Certain it is, that many tranſactions are very differently told from what we have been accuſtomed to hear. We ſhall ſelect, from the firſt volume, an event which, we believe, has never been publicly known in England, though it ſeems to have been the means of defeating the moſt important enterpriſe that was ever formed

formed to accompliſh the downfall of Ayder.—It may be neceſſary juſt to premiſe, that Ayder (as the writer is pleaſed to write his name) was in the height of conqueſt when he projected an expedition againſt Travancour.

"The Engliſh had no ſooner heard of Ayder's preparations than they grew jealous of them. In their uncertainty reſpecting his intentions, they reſolved to diſpatch his onaquil, or reſident, from Madras with diſpatches announcing a ſolemn embaſſy, compoſed of the chief men of the ſettlement.—Ayder, foreſeeing that this embaſſy could only mean to divert him from his intended purpoſe, thought it neceſſary to elude receiving it, alledging, that Coilmoutour, where he was encamped, being only a military ſtation, and by no means proper for the reception of ambaſſadors, he could not conveniently receive the embaſſy till he ſhould arrive at Seringapatam, a royal city, to which he propoſed to return in a ſhort time.—Ayder (ſays the writer) was too well acquainted with Engliſh policy to ſuffer himſelf to be ſeduced by the pompous honours with which they hoped to dazzle his ſight; and, far from being flattered with this embaſſy, he was determined no longer to defer his expedition againſt Travancour.

There was at this time an Iriſh officer in his army, named Turner, who had been admitted into his ſervice by the recommendation of Gov. Boſchier [Beacher], and who, poſſeſſing all the talents of a good officer, had in a very ſhort time gained the affections of Ayder. To this gentleman Ayder had committed the execution of his moſt important operations, and had advanced him to the command of the firſt battalion of Topaſs grenadiers; and in this quality he was regarded as general of that body, which forms a reconnoitring party of 5000 men.

It muſt be allowed that an officer, recommended by an Engliſh governor, ought to have been treated with leſs confidence; but this man had behaved ſo well in the war on the coaſt of Malabar, that, far from having any miſtruſt of him, he had acquired the full confidence of his generals. Taking the advantage of the good opinion they had of him, he waited till the time of payment, which was every lunar month; and when he had received his appointments, and the pay of his men, he made his eſcape by the road that leads to Cochin.

His quarters were a ſhort league from Coilmoutour. His officers waited on him, as uſual, to receive their pay; but, under the plauſible pretence of the abſence of his ſecretary, he begged them to wait till the next day. In the evening, to put his project in execution, he mounted his horſe, accompanied only by a young Swediſh officer, to whom he had communicated his deſign, and telling his domeſtics that he was going to ſup with the commandant general at Coilmoutour, he diſappeared, carrying every thing he had of value with him.

The intenſity [intenſeneſs] of the heat in the day, and the beauty and coolneſs of the night in India, induce people of diſtinction to ſit up ſometimes very late, more eſpecially as they have the cuſtom of ſleeping in the day from three till ſix. Some officers, who were in this habitude, happened to call upon Turner, and were aſtoniſhed when they heard he was gone to Coilmoutour to ſupper, in the abſence of his ſecretary; but, far from harbouring any ſuſpicion of his flight, they concluded he was gone ſomewhere to a gaming party, knowing him to be fond of play. The night being fine, they reſolved to diſcover his haunt; and, thinking to ſurpriſe him agreeably, they haſtily repaired to Coilmoutour, where they arrived about midnight. Their ſuſpicions began to awake, when they found every body in bed and faſt aſleep, except the guards, and, upon inquiry, were told that no officer had been there ſince ſunſet.

They every where queſtioned the guards concerning the commandant of the Topaſs grenadiers, and were every where anſwered that he had been ſeen in the morning, but not ſince. Finding no ſatisfactory intelligence, and conſulting together what was beſt to be done, they concluded, at laſt, to call upon the Commandant General, and impart to him their ſuſpicions, who inſtantly diſpatched meſſengers to all the poſts that guarded the paſſes, to inquire if any officer of diſtinction had paſſed them in the night. One of theſe meſſengers brought word back, that two European officers had paſſed ſome hours before, ſeemingly in great haſte. The officer next in command in Turner's corps had already been ſent for, and he, with great zeal and animation, propoſed inſtantly, with a party of fifty men, to go in purſuit of them. His offer was accepted, and he departed about

about day-break, and about eight in the evening the horſes of the deſerters were diſcovered graſing on the frontiers of Cochin, where their riders had ſtopped to repoſe, and where they thought themſelves ſafe out of the reach of the purſuers, whom they expected to follow them. The houſe where they lay was immediately ſurrounded, and they were found faſt aſleep. Their perſons were ſecured, and they were reconducted to Coilmoutour.

Ayder, being informed of the eſcape of Turner and the Swediſh officer, and of their recapture, gave orders to judge them as in ſimilar caſes in Europe. The conſequence was, a court-martial was called, at which the two criminals were tried and convicted, one for carrying off the public money, the other for departing without leave; and ſentence was accordingly pronounced againſt them: Turner to be hanged and gibbetted, the other to be impriſoned till the ſovereign's pleaſure ſhould be known. The court, in compaſſion to the youth of the Swediſh officer, and becauſe there was reaſon to believe he was ſeduced by the other, thought proper to intercede with the Nabob in his favour, who was pleaſed to remit his ſentence for the preſent, and afterwards to pardon him. As to Turner, he was conducted to the place of execution, where he confeſſed himſelf a ſpy, employed by the government of Madras, begged pardon of his ſovereign for having ſo long abuſed his confidence, and made a full diſcovery of all that was plotting againſt him. He told him, what he could ſcarcely believe, that the Engliſh, by means of the Diva (or chief miniſters), had determined Nizam Dowla, Suba of Decan, to carry the war into the Mayſſour; that all his friends had in vain endeavoured to diſſuade him from it, but that, having given himſelf up entirely to the ſuggeſtions of his Diva, he had beſtowed the command of his army on Gen. Smith, who had brought a conſiderable body of Europeans and Sepoys from Madras, and was already in the field to oppoſe his [Ayder's] progreſs. On the receipt of this advice, Ayder determined to defer his expedition againſt Travancour, and to march to Seringapatnam, the capital of Mayſſour, to be in readineſs to meet his enemies. All that the criminal requeſted, in reward for this diſcovery, was, to have his ſentence changed from being ignominiouſly hanged, to that of being permitted to die the death of a ſoldier. Life he did not expect; and his requeſt was granted him.

Ayder proceeded to the capital with all the parade of eaſtern magnificence, under little or no apprehenſion from the war that was likely to take place with the Suba of the Decan; but when he came to receive a confirmation of what Turner had confeſſed, and beſides that the Mahrattas were in motion, and that they had joined Mirza Ali Khan, Ayder's brother-in-law and couſin, (a young prince whom he had brought up from his infancy, had trained him to the art of war, and had intruſted him with a powerful army, and with a ſpecial commiſſion to make peace with the Mahrattas); when he received theſe advices, and that the army on which he depended for ſuccour was turned againſt him, he could not conceal his diſquietude; his projects of conqueſt were all at once blaſted, and he had now only to provide for his own ſafety.

In the ſituation he then ſtood, his country being laid open by the treaſon of Mirza, he could neither venture to meet the Mahrattas, nor the combined armies of the Suba and Engliſh. He was therefore of neceſſity obliged to fortify himſelf in his preſent poſt, and wait the formidable attack of the confederated armies, or abandon Seringapatnam and the kingdom of Mayſſour to his enemies.

The genius of Ayder, fertile in reſources, and formed to ſhine on great occaſions, ſuggeſted to him one expedient, and, though a deſperate one, he cauſed it to be carried into execution with a degree of celerity that is hardly to be credited in an European country. His whole cavalry was divided into little parties, and diſperſed every where to burn and lay waſte the country, and the inhabitants were ordered either to retire, with their proviſions and effects, beyond the mountains, or bring them to Seringapatnam, where they ſhould find protection. This order was rigidly put in execution, and for twenty leagues round Seringapatnam, the fineſt and moſt beautiful country in the whole world was converted into a deſert, where hardly a houſe was to be ſeen ſtanding.

In the mean time, while the cavalry were employed on this ſervice, the utmoſt diligence was uſed, by the reſt of the army, in completing the fortifica-

tions, which were rendered almoſt impregnable, both by art and nature.

All theſe preparations were made with ſuch ſecrecy and diſpatch, that the enemy were totally ignorant of what was doing; and Gen. Smith and the Suba of Decan being appriſed of the defection of Mirza, and his junction with the Mahrattas, announced it to Mirza, as the certain preſage of the ruin of Ayder.—Whether (ſays our hiſtorian) the hopes of the Engliſh were rational or not, certain it is, that when they learned that the Mahrattas had declared war againſt Ayder, and that Mirza, his brother-in-law, had joined them, their expectations were unbounded, and they devoured, by anticipation, the treaſures of Ayder. The council of Madras, who till then had envied the brilliant fortune of the Calcutta government in the enjoyment of an immenſe territorial revenue, flattered themſelves in a ſhort time to realize their chimerial hopes, and to equal them in ſplendor and importance. Their letters to the court of directors were filled with brilliant projects, that promiſed no leſs than the poſſeſſion of all the coaſt from Cape Roma to Cape Comorin. The court of directors were thrown into a kind of delirium by their admiration of the profound policy of their ſervants; and every one being anxious to poſſeſs a large ſhare of the Company's ſtock, it roſe to 275 per cent. in the year 1768, though it afterwards fell at once to 220, on the news of an excurſion of Ayder's horſe to the gates of Madras. Let it ſuffice to add, that the confederate armies, finding it impracticable to act againſt Ayder with the leaſt hopes of ſucceſs, diſagreed among themſelves, and each made his peace with Ayder on the beſt terms they could.—Thus ended the moſt promiſing plan for the ruin of Ayder that ever was formed."

Capt. Cook's Voyage to the Pacific Ocean, continued, p. 377.

THey left Mangeea on the 30th of March, and at noon the next day ſaw another iſland, bearing N. E. by N. They came abreaſt of it next morning, and then ſaw another right a-head. The former being the larger, and about the ſize of that they had left, they made for it; but the wind being ſcant, as well as contrary, they were two leagues from it the next morning. However, being in great want of fodder for their cattle, Capt. Cook ſent two boats, armed, to look for anchorage and a landing-place; and ſtood after them as faſt as he could. Soon after the boats left the ſhip, ſeveral canoes were ſeen coming from the ſhore. Three of them, each conducted by a ſingle man, came along-ſide the Reſolution; and, with a little perſuaſion, one of them made his canoe faſt to the ſhip, and went on board her: and the other two, encouraged by his example, ſoon followed him. Several other canoes ſoon after came from the ſhore, one of which brought a preſent from the chief of the iſland, expreſsly for Capt. Cook, whoſe name he had learned from Omai, who went in the boats that were ſent to ſeek anchorage. "Theſe viſitors were afraid to come near the cows and horſes, nor could they form the leaſt conception of their natures; but the ſheep and goats, they pretended, did not ſurpaſs the limits of their ideas, as they gave us to underſtand that they knew them to be birds. It will appear," adds Capt. Cook, "incredible that human ignorance could ever make ſo ſtrange a miſtake; as there is not the moſt diſtant ſimilitude between a ſheep or goat and a winged animal. But theſe people ſeemed to know nothing of the exiſtence of any land animals beſides hogs, dogs, and birds. Our ſheep and goats, they could ſee, were very different creatures from the two firſt, and therefore they inferred that they muſt belong to the latter claſs, in which they knew there is a conſiderable variety of ſpecies."

In the afternoon the boats returned; and Lieut. Gore was of opinion that much good food might be got for the cattle, if boats were ſent to lie juſt without the ſurf, by prevailing on the natives to bring off to them ſuch articles as were moſt wanted. Capt. Cook diſpatched Lieut. Gore with three boats to try the experiment, which he was the rather induced to do, as there was little or no wind, and therefore the delay of a day or two was of little moment: and as he had reaſon to believe he could depend on Mr Gore's diligence and ability, he left it entirely to him to act, as from circumſtances he ſhould judge to be proper. The ſhips being a full league from the iſland when the boats put off, and having but very little wind, it was noon before they could work up to it. They then ſaw the boats riding juſt without the ſurf, and a prodigious number of the natives

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on the ſhore, abreaſt of them. From this circumſtance they concluded that ſome of the gentlemen had landed. The whole afternoon was ſpent without any of the boats returning, during all which time Capt. Cook kept plying to and from, as near the reef as prudence would permit, with a view of being as near at hand as poſſible, if any improper uſe ſhould be made by the natives of the confidence which, it now plainly appeared, had been put in them. The natives, however, kept coming off to the ſhips, with a few cocoa nuts; and theſe occaſional viſits ſerved to leſſen the ſolicitude of thoſe on board for their companions who were on ſhore, as their venturing on board ſeemed to imply, at leaſt, that their countrymen had no bad intentions towards them. At length, a little before ſun-ſet, they had the ſatisfaction to ſee the boats put off; and, when they got on board, it was found that Mr Gore himſelf, Omai, Mr Anderſon, and Mr Burney, were the only perſons who had landed.

Mr Anderſon, who narrates the tranſactions of the day, ſays, "We determined to go on ſhore unarmed, to create a greater confidence in the natives, and thereby run the hazard of being treated ill or well. Mr Burney and I went in one canoe, a little before the others; and when we landed, an iſlander took hold of each of us, but obviouſly with no other intent than to ſupport us in walking over the rugged rocks to the beach; where ſeveral others met us, holding green boughs in their hands, and they ſaluted us by applying their noſes to ours. We were led from the beach by our guides, through a great crowd of people, who flocked with eager curioſity to look at us, and through whom we ſhould not have made our way, if thoſe who attended us, and ſeemed to be of authority, had not dealt blows, with little diſtinction, among them. We were led up an avenue of cocoa-nut trees, and ſoon came to two rows of men, with clubs, which they reſted on their ſhoulders, as we do muſquets, and between which we were led till we came to a perſon who ſat fanning himſelf, and ſeemed to be a chief. This man we were deſired to ſalute, which we did, and then proceeded on, amongſt the men armed with clubs, until we came to a ſecond chief, who likewiſe ſat croſs-legged on the ground, fanning himſelf. In the ſame manner we were conducted to a third, who ſeemed older than either of the others. After ſaluting him alſo, he deſired us to ſit down, which we were very willing to do, being much fatigued with walking up in the exceſſive heat which we felt amongſt ſo vaſt a crowd of people.

In a few minutes the people were ordered to ſeparate, when we ſaw about twenty young women, ornamented with red feathers, as each of the three chiefs were, and engaged in a dance, which they performed to a ſlow ſerious air, ſung by them all. We roſe and went to them; and though we muſt have been ſtrange objects to them, their dance was continued, without paying the leaſt attention to us. They were directed by a man, who ſeemed to point out every motion they were to make. They do not change their place, as we do, in dancing, yet their feet were never at reſt, and the exerciſe ſeemed to conſiſt chiefly in moving their feet and fingers very nimbly, while their hands were held in a prone poſition, before their faces; and, now and then, they clapped them together. Their motions and ſong were performed to ſuch exact time, that it was clear to us they muſt have been taught with great care. This dance was not finiſhed, when we heard a noiſe, as if ſome horſes had been galloping towards us; and, on looking aſide, we ſaw the people, armed with clubs, who had been deſired we ſuppoſe, to entertain us with a ſight of their manner of fighting. This they did by one party purſuing another, who ſeemed to fly before them.

As we ſuppoſed the ceremony of being introduced was now at an end, we began to look about for Mr Gore and Omai; and though the crowd would ſcarcely ſuffer us to move, we at laſt found them, as much incommoded by the multitude as ourſelves. They were introduced to the three chiefs in the ſame manner that we had been, and Mr Gore made them preſents of ſuch things as he had brought from the ſhip for that purpoſe; and, by means of Omai, made them underſtand what our intention was in coming on ſhore: but he was given to underſtand in return, that we muſt abide with them till the next day, and then we ſhould have what was wanted. They now ſeemed to take ſome pains to ſeparate us from one another; and I was at one time an hour without ſeeing any of my companions. I told the chief, with whom I was ſitting, that I wanted to ſpeak with

Omai; but he peremptorily refuſed my requeſt: at the ſame time I obſerved that the people began to pick my pockets of ſuch little things as I had about me; and when I complained to the chief of this treatment, he juſtified it. From theſe circumſtances I now began to apprehend they had formed deſigns of detaining us amongſt them. They did not ſeem of a diſpoſition ſo ſavage as to make me anxious about the ſafety of my perſon; but it was vexatious to think that we had hazarded being detained by their curioſity. In this ſituation I aſked for ſomething to eat, and bread-fruit, cocoa-nuts, and a ſort of ſour pudding, was preſented to me by a woman; and on my complaining of the heat, the chief himſelf condeſcended to fan me. About this time Mr Burney found me, to whom I mentioned my ſuſpicions; and in order to try whether they were well founded, we attempted to walk down to the beach; but were ſtopped before we got half way, and compelled to return. We now found Omai, entertaining the ſame ſuſpicions: but he had, as he fancied, an additional reaſon for fear; for he ſaw they had dug a hole in the ground for an oven, which they were now heating; and he could aſſign no other reaſon for it, than that they meant to roſt and eat us, as is practiſed by the natives of New Zealand. Nay, he went ſo far as to aſk them the queſtion, at which they were greatly ſurpriſed, aſking him in return, if we did ſo? A young pig, which we ſaw ſoon after, lying near the oven which they had heated, removed Omai's apprehenſions of being put into it himſelf; and Mr Burney and I were very angry at him for betraying his ſuſpicions. They however contrived to rifle our pockets of every thing that was in them, often under colour of expreſſing their admiration of, and friendſhip for us; and at laſt ſnatched a bayonet from Mr Gore's ſide, and a dagger from Omai's. Theſe things were not ſuffered to paſs without complaint, but we received no redreſs: and though we made repeated attempts to get to our boats, they as often ſtopped us, and ſometimes in a manner which bordered on rudeneſs. Finding that the only way to procure better treatment, was to yield implicit obedience to their will, we went again to the place we had left; and they now promiſed that we ſhould have a canoe to carry us off to our boats, as ſoon as we had eaten of a repaſt which they had prepared for us.

Accordingly, the ſecond chief to whom we had been preſented in the morning, having ſeated himſelf, and directed the multitude to make a pretty large ring, made us ſit down by him. A conſiderable number of cocoa-nuts were brought; and ſhortly after a long green baſket, with a ſufficient number of baked plantains for a dozen people. A piece of the hog which had been dreſſed was then ſet before each of us, of which we were deſired to eat; but our appetites had failed from the fatigue of the day, and what we did eat was more to pleaſe them than ourſelves. It being now near ſun-ſet, we told them it was time for us to go on board; which they allowed, and ſent down to the beach the remainder of the victuals which had been dreſſed, to be carried with us to the ſhips: but we were not ſuffered to depart before Omai had been treated with a liquor he had not taſted before for a long time, and which is prepared here in the ſame manner as at other places in the South Seas. When we arrived at the beach, we found a canoe ready to put us off to our boats, which was done with the ſame caution and attention that was obſerved when we landed. But their thieviſh diſpoſition did not leave them to the laſt; for a perſon of ſome conſequence among them, who came with us, took an opportunity, juſt as they were puſhing the canoe into the ſurf, to ſnatch a bag out of her, which I had with the greateſt difficulty preſerved all the day, there being a ſmall pocket-piſtol in it which I was unwilling to part with. Perceiving him, I called out with as much diſpleaſure as I could expreſs; on which he thought proper to return, and ſwim with the bag to the canoe; but denied that he had ſtole it, though he was detected in the very act. They put us ſafely on board the boats, and we returned to the ſhips, well pleaſed that we had got out of the hands of ſuch troubleſome maſters." In juſtice to Mr Anderſon, we muſt remark, that the above account is but an abſtract of what he has written.

On reviewing this moſt curious tranſaction, we cannot help calling to our memory the manners of the patriarchal times, as deſcribed in the book of Geneſis, chap. xviii. And it does not appear to us that theſe people had any intention in detaining ours, different from thoſe which actuated the patriarch in a ſimilar

ſimilar tranſaction. The apprehenſions of our people were indeed natural enough; but they aroſe from their ignorance of the intentions, manners, and cuſtoms of their hoſpitable entertainers, and their want of the means of informing themſelves of them: and it is highly probable, that even thoſe actions which appear in the harſheſt light, appeared not not ſo to the natives; or they might be at a loſs how to make uſe of others, from not underſtanding each others language ſo perfectly as might be wiſhed. It muſt, however, be owned, that Capt. Cook looked on this matter in a ſomewhat leſs favourable light. He ſays, "It has been mentioned that Omai was ſent on this expedition, and perhaps his being Mr Gore's interpreter was not the only ſervice he performed that day. He was aſked by the natives a great many queſtions concerning us, our ſhips, our country, and the ſort of arms we uſed; and, according to the account he gave me, his anſwers were not a little upon the marvellous. As for inſtance, he told them, that our country had ſhips as large as their iſland, on board which were inſtruments of war (deſcribing our guns) of ſuch dimenſions, that ſeveral might ſit within them; and that one of them was ſufficient to cruth the whole iſland at one ſhot. This led them to inquire of him, what ſort of guns we actually had in our two ſhips? He ſaid, that though they were but ſmall, in compariſon with thoſe he had thus deſcribed, yet with ſuch as they were, we could with the greateſt eaſe, and at the diſtance the ſhips were from the ſhore, deſtroy the iſland, and kill every ſoul in it. They perſevered in their inquiries, to know by what means this could be done; and Omai explained the matter as well as he could. He happened, very luckily, to have a few cartridges in his pocket. Theſe he produced; the balls, and the gunpowder which was to ſet them in motion, were ſubmitted to inſpection; and, to ſupply the defects of his deſcription, an appeal was made to the ſenſes of the ſpectators. It has been mentioned above, that one of the chiefs had ordered the multitude to form themſelves in a circle. This furniſhed Omai with a convenient ſtage for his exhibition. In the centre of this amphitheatre, the inconſiderable quantity of gunpowder, collected from his cartridges, was properly diſpoſed on the ground; and, by means of a bit of burning wood from the oven where dinner was dreſſing, ſet on fire. The ſudden blaſt, and loud report, the mingled flame and ſmoke that inſtantly ſucceeded, now filled the whole aſſembly with aſtoniſhment; they no longer doubted the tremendous power of our weapons, and gave full credit to all that Omai had ſaid.

If it had not been for the terrible ideas they conceived of the guns of our ſhips, from this ſpecimen of our mode of operation, it was thought that they would have detained the gentlemen all night. For Omai aſſured them, that if he and his companions did not return on board the ſame day, they might expect I would fire upon the iſland. And as we ſtood in nearer the land in the evening, than we had done any time before, of which poſition of the ſhips they were obſerved to take great notice, they probably thought we were meditating this formidable attack, and therefore ſuffered their gueſts to depart."

We have been induced to give this ſhort extract, as a ſpecimen of the manner in which Omai will, probably, deliver the hiſtory of his travels. It will alſo ſhew, that Omai poſſeſſed both genius and judgement; and that he was not altogether that ſtupid being which many repreſented him, merely from not conſidering the diſadvantages he laboured under, not only from want of language, but alſo from being an utter ſtranger to the objects which offered themſelves to his conſideration. But,

"This day, it ſeems, was deſtined to give Omai more occaſions than one, of being brought forward to bear a principal ſhare in its tranſactions. The iſland, though never before viſited by Europeans, actually happened to have other ſtrangers reſiding in it; and it was entirely owing to Omai's being one of Mr Gore's attendants that this curious circumſtance came to our knowledge.

Scarcely had he been landed upon the beach, when he found amongſt the crowd there aſſembled, three of his own countrymen, natives of the Society Iſlands. At the diſtance of about two hundred leagues from thoſe iſlands, an immenſe, unknown ocean intervening, with ſuch wretched ſea-boats as their inhabitants are known to make uſe of, and fit only for a paſſage where ſight of land is ſcarcely ever loſt, ſuch a meeting, at ſuch a place, ſo accidentally viſited by us, may well be looked upon as one of thoſe unexpected

expected ſituations which the writers of feigned adventures love to ſurpriſe their readers with; and which, when they really happen in common life, deſerve to be recorded for their ſingularity. It may eaſily be gueſſed with what mutual ſurpriſe and ſatisfaction Omai and his countrymen engaged in converſation. Their ſtory, as related by them, is an affecting one. About twenty perſons in number, of both ſexes, had embarked in a canoe at Otaheite, to croſs over to the neighbouring iſland of Ulietea. A violent contrary wind ariſing, they could neither reach the latter nor get back to the former. Their intended paſſage being a very ſhort one, their ſtock of proviſions was very ſcanty, and ſoon exhauſted. The hardſhips they ſuffered, while driven along by the ſtorm, they knew not whither, are not to be conceived. They paſſed many days without having any thing to eat or drink. Their numbers gradually diminiſhed, worn out by famine and fatigue. Four men only ſurvived, when the canoe overſet, and then the perdition of this ſmall remnant ſeemed inevitable. However, they kept hanging by the ſide of their veſſel during ſome of the laſt days, till Providence brought them in ſight of the people of this iſland, who immediately ſent out canoes, took them off their wreck, and brought them aſhore. Of the four who were thus ſaved, one of them is ſince dead: the other three, who lived to have this opportunity of giving an account of their almoſt miraculous tranſplantation, ſpoke highly of the kind treatment they had met with here; and ſo well ſatisfied were they with their ſituation, that they refuſed the offer made to them by our gentlemen, at Omai's requeſt, of giving them a paſſage on board of our ſhips, to reſtore them to their native iſlands. The ſimilarity of manners and language had more than naturalized them to this ſpot; and the freſh connections which they had here formed, and which it would have been painful to have broken off, after ſuch a length of time, ſufficiently account for their declining to reviſit the places of their birth. They had arrived at this iſland at leaſt twelve years ago. For I learnt from Mr Anderſon, that he found they knew nothing of Capt. Wallis's viſit to Otaheite in 1765; nor yet of ſeveral other memorable occurrences, ſuch as the conqueſt of Ulietea by the natives of Bolabola, which preceded the arrival of the Europeans.'

Capt. Cook being diſappointed of the fodder he wiſhed to procure from this iſland, directed his courſe for the ſmaller one, on which the boats landed without much difficulty; and as the iſland was, at this time at leaſt, uninhabited, they had not the ſame inconveniencies to ſtruggle with; and, in conſequence, they procured ſomething to preſerve the cattle alive for the preſent, but not by any means enough either to attempt reaching Otaheite, which was many degrees to windward, nor even the Friendly Iſles, which lay at about the ſame diſtance to leeward. He therefore puſhed for Hervey's and Palmerſton's Iſles, diſcovered in his former voyage; at the latter of which he ſucceeded ſo far, as to procure fodder ſufficient to reach the Friendly Iſles; but water was yet wanting: Providence, however, ſoon after ſupplied this want by ſome very heavy ſhowers, which happened about that time.

Theſe neceſſary articles being obtained, they ſteered weſt, with a view of making Annamocka; and on the 28th of April got ſight of the iſlands which lie to the eaſtward of it. They paſſed to the ſouth of theſe iſlands, and then hauled up for Annamocka; but ſqually weather coming on, they anchored, at the approach of night, off the S. E. end of Komango, and about two leagues from it, in 15 fathoms, on a bottom of coral, ſand, and ſhells. Notwithſtanding the badneſs of the weather, and the diſtance, ſome canoes came off to them, and along ſide without the leaſt heſitation, bringing cocoa-nuts, bread-fruit, plantains, and ſugar-canes, which they bartered for nails. At five in the morning they weighed, and plied up towards Annamocka, the wind being contrary; and they did not anchor in the road where Capt. Cook had anchored in his laſt voyage, until five o'clock in the afternoon of the 2d of May. During all this time, the ſhips were ſurrounded with ſuch a multitude of the natives in their canoes, who came off to trade, that it was with difficulty they made their way among them.

[*To be continued.*]

Poſtſcript to a pamphlet by Dr Price, on the ſtate of the public debts and finances, at ſigning the preliminary articles of peace, in January 1783. 1s. Cadell.

THis Poſtſcript contains a compariſon of the account of the public debts in Dr

Dr Price's former pamphlet on that ſubject, with the account in the Eleventh Report publiſhed by the Commiſſioners of Public Accounts; in which Report, finding a ſtrong repreſentation of the neceſſity of immediate efforts to reduce the national debts, Dr Price reiterates his former propoſal of applying annual loans to this purpoſe. But as the ſcheme of borrowing money to diſcharge debts, may appear paradoxical, at leaſt to common apprehenſions, we ſhall not venture to expreſs what the Doctor now adds on this ſubject in our own words, but ſhall quote the paſſage *verbatim*.

The late fall in the ſtocks has been owing probably to cauſes the operation of which nothing could have entirely prevented; but it would, perhaps, have been much leſs felt, had ſuch a plan of borrowing been adopted, as that which has been propoſed in the laſt ſection of the Tract on the Finances *. For,

First, The weight of the laſt loan would have had leſs effect, in conſequence of being divided among a vaſt body of ſubſtantial ſtock-holders. And,

Secondly, The public creditors would have ſeen that the loan was intended to facilitate the redemption of the public debts, and to *introduce* a general plan for that purpoſe. The effect of this on public confidence muſt have been very favourable; and it is certain that nothing *now* can permanently recover public credit, or make us capable of meeting another war, but ſome meaſures which ſhall ſhew an intention to redeem the public debts, and convey a conviction that they are in the way to be redeemed.

It has been ſhewn, that an addition of near a million per ann. to the taxes is neceſſary to bring up the revenue to an *equality* with the public expenditure. Another million per ann. is neceſſary to gain a ſurplus for a plan of redemption; but it may well be doubted whether it is practicable to make theſe additions to the revenue, without ſtronger meaſures than the kingdom will bear. Should this be the caſe, it will, I think, be right to make up the neceſſary ſurplus by ſmall annual loans.—— I know this is an idea which will be ridiculed by the perſons who have ſcouted as nonſenſe Lord Shelburne's motion, mentioned in p. 32. of the Tract on the Finances. But ſuch ridicule will prove nothing but an inexcuſable degree of inattention to a ſubject with which our ſtateſmen, in the preſent circumſtances of the kingdom, ought to be beſt acquainted.—— The truth is, that by *borrowing only*, any amount of debts (including the ſums † borrowed) may,

* The following is a ſketch of the plan propoſed in the Tract to which this is a poſtſcript.—— "In paying off debts with any given ſurplus appropriated to that purpoſe, their bearing a *high* rather than a *low* intereſt is a particular advantage. A million ſurplus, in the ſame time in which it would pay off a *hundred* millions bearing 3 per cent. intereſt, will pay off 133 millions bearing 4 per cent.; 198 millions bearing 5 per cent.; and 241 millions bearing 6 per cent.—It was therefore propoſed, that the 3 per cents ſhould be converted into 4 per cents, and that future loans ſhould be conducted on a plan which ſhould make them the means of effecting this converſion; and it is very remarkable, that on ſuch a plan, independently of its uſe as a preparatory meaſure, loans may be conducted with more benefit to the public, and at the ſame time with more equity and fairneſs, than on any other plan.—The truth of this obſervation will appear from the following account of the plan intended.—At the time this ſubject was under conſideration, the average price of the 3 per cents was 68, and of the 4 per cents 86. In theſe circumſtances, it was propoſed that, for 104 l. in money, the holders of the 3 per cent. ſtocks ſhould be offered, in exchange for 100 l. of this ſtock, 200 l. 4 per cent. ſtock; or, in general, that for every capital of 100 l. or more, which the proprietors of the 3 per cents ſhould ſubſcribe, double that capital ſhould be granted bearing an intereſt of 4 per cent. provided the ſubſcription was followed by a payment in money, at the rate of 104 l. for every 100 l. ſtock ſubſcribed.—— In this caſe the intereſt payable by the public would be 4 l. 16 s. 2 d. per cent. For an intereſt of 5 l. (being the difference between the intereſt of 200 l. 4 per per cent. and 100 l. 3 per cent. ſtock) would be paid on 104 l. in money; and this is the ſame with paying 4 l. 16 s. 2 d. for 100 l. in money.—It would be neceſſary, in order to obtain by ſuch a ſubſcription ten millions in money, that 9,615,384 l. in the 3 per cent. ſtock ſhould be ſubſcribed; in exchange for which, a double 4 per cent. ſtock would be granted, and, conſequently, 19,230,768 l. added to the 4 per cents, one half of which would be ſo much added to the capital of the public debts, and the other half a ſubſtitution of one capital for another equal capital."

† It is, in this caſe, of little conſequence what intereſt the ſums thus borrowed carry. The higher the intereſt, the ſhorter is the time of redemption, and the greater the efficiency of a ſinking fund.

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in time, be diſcharged by a ſinking fund never diverted.

A million borrowed annually for twenty years, will pay off, in this time, fifty-five millions 3 per cent. ſtock, if diſcharged at 60l. in money for every 100l. ſtock; and in forty years more, without any further aid from loans, 333 millions (that is, 388 millions in all) would be paid off.

The addition of nineteen years to this period would pay off a *thouſand millions*.

A ſurplus of half a million per ann. made up to a million, by borrowing half a million every year for twenty years, would diſcharge the ſame ſums in the ſame periods.

In ſhort, ſo neceſſary is it at preſent to expedite, by every poſſible means, the redemption of our debts, that, let the ſurplus which can be obtained for a ſinking fund be what it will, an addition to it, by annual loans, will be proper, in order to give it greater efficiency and a better chance for ſaving the kingdom.—— The increaſe of taxes which ſuch a meaſure muſt occaſion, would be ſo inconſiderable and ſo gradual, as to be ſcarcely perceptible; and, at the ſame time, it would manifeſt ſuch a determined reſolution in our rulers to reduce our debts, as might have the happieſt influence on public credit."

Without attempting to enter into the abſtruſe operations of finance, we will only hint, that if we compute the average duration of peaceable intervals ſince the Revolution, and the rapid accumulations of debt in ſeaſons of warfare, we fear that this plan ſtands no chance of a fair trial to any effectual purpoſe; and that if we even were to enjoy twenty years of reſpite, a fourth part of the time following ſuch an extraordinary peace would ſuffice to renew a debt amounting to the double of the incumbrances ſo diſcharged! M.

Scottiſh Publications.

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The Life of George Count Leſly of Monymuſk, abridged from the larger work of John Baptiſt Renuccini, Archbiſhop and Prince of Fermo. 4to. 8d. *The Bookſellers, Edinburgh*.

Some hints relative to the recovery of perſons drowned, and apparently dead, with a view to render that practice more generally ſucceſsful. By John Fuller, ſurgeon at Ayton, Berwickſhire. 1s. *Elliot*.

Ancient Metaphyſics, vol. 3. containing the hiſtory and philoſophy of men. With a preface, containing the hiſtory of ancient philoſophy, both in ancient and later times. Alſo with three diſſertations annexed, upon the following ſubjects. 1. Confirmations and illuſtrations of what has been ſaid in the preceding volumes, upon the ſubject of the principle of Sir Iſaac Newton's Aſtronomy. 2. An inquiry into the principle of the motion of bodies organized. 3. The difference between man and brute farther illuſtrated and explained; with additional facts and obſervations concerning the Orang Outang, and Peter the Wild Boy. 18s. boards. *Balfour*.

A Treatiſe on Ploughs and Wheel Carriages. Illuſtrated by plates. By James Small, plough and cart wright, formerly at Blackadder Mount, now at Roſebank, near Foord, Mid-Lothian. 6s. boards. *Creech* and *Elliot*.

An Account of the inſtitution and progreſs of the Society of the Antiquaries of Scotland. Part Second. 4s. Sold at the *Muſeum*, and by *Creech*, *Edinburgh*, and *Donaldſon*, *London*.

Abſtract

Abſtract of the act for reſtoring the Forfeited Eſtates.

THE preamble, after reciting the acts for veſting theſe eſtates in his Majeſty, and mentioning the reſtoration of the eſtate of the late Simon Lord Lovat to Maj.-Gen. Simon Fraſer [vol. 36. p. 195.], ſets forth, That whereas, by the experience of many years, it has been found, that no ſubjects in any part of his Majeſty's dominions are more loyal or dutiful, or better affected to his Majeſty's perſon and government, than the inhabitants of the highlands of Scotland now are, many of whom, of all ranks and deſcriptions, have performed ſignal ſervices to their country in the late wars between Great Britain and its enemies; and more particularly the heirs and families of all or moſt of the ſaid attainted perſons have been employed in the ſervice of their lawful ſovereign, and teſtified their loyalty and zeal upon all occaſions, and therefore it is fit that they ſhould now receive ſome mark of his Majeſty's royal mercy and clemency: And whereas it is expedient that the ſaid eſtates be now diſannexed, and reſtored to the heirs or families of the former owners, upon the payment of certain ſums on account of the debts due by the forfeiting perſons, which were diſcharged by the public, and under the other conditions herein after mentioned; be it therefore enacted, &c.

His Majeſty is then impowered to reſtore the forfeited eſtates to the following perſons, upon payment of the ſums annexed to their names reſpectively.

To the Hon. John M'Kenzie, commonly called Lord M'Leod, eldeſt ſon of George late Earl of Cromarty, the lands forfeited by his ſaid father, upon his paying into the court of Exchequer in Scotland the ſum of 19010 l. 10 s. 7 d.

To Donald Cameron, ſon and heir of Charles Cameron, late Captain in the 71ſt regiment of foot, deceaſed, who was only lawful ſon of Donald Cameron late of Lochiel, the lands, &c. forfeited by the ſaid Donald Cameron, upon paying 3433 l. 9 s. 1 d.

To Duncan Stewart, eldeſt lawful ſon of Charles Stewart late of Ardſheal, and his heirs and aſſigns, the lands, &c. forfeited by the ſaid Charles Stewart, now deceaſed, upon paying 699 l. 7 s. 9 d.

To John M'Donald, eldeſt ſon and heir of the deceaſed Lt-Col. Alexander M'Donald, of the 71ſt regiment, who was eldeſt ſon of Donald Macdonald late of Kinlochmoydart, and his heirs and aſſigns, the lands, &c. forfeited by the ſaid Donald M'Donald, upon paying 1111 l. 15 s. 3 d.

To Col. Duncan M'Pherſon, only lawful ſon of Evan M'Pherſon, late of Cluny, and his heirs and aſſigns, the lands, &c. forfeited by the ſaid Evan M'Pherſon, upon paying 5138 l. 17 s. 11 d.

To Col. John M'Donell, late of the 76th regiment, eldeſt lawful ſon of Duncan Macdonell, late of Lochgary, and his heirs and aſſigns, the lands, &c. forfeited by the ſaid Duncan M'Donell, upon paying 2083 l. 12 s. 1 d.

To John Cameron, eldeſt lawful ſon of Allan Cameron, late of Callart, and his heirs and aſſigns, the lands, &c. forfeited by the ſaid Allan Cameron, now deceaſed, upon paying 420 l. 15 s. 9 d.

To Francis Farquharſon, late of Monaltry, who has received his Majeſty's moſt gracious pardon, and his heirs and aſſigns, the lands, &c. forfeited by his attainder, upon paying 1613 l. 9 d.

As the lands, &c. belonging to Archibald M'Donald, ſon of Col M'Donald of Barriſdale, were in fact only held in wadſet by the ſaid Col M'Donald, and his ſon Archibald, redeemable for 1527 l. 15 s. 6 d. by John M'Donell of Glengary, but were nevertheleſs allowed to be ſurveyed and forfeited as the abſolute property of the ſaid Archibald M'Donald, without any claim being entered in due time by John M'Donell the reverſer, whoſe heir ought now to be reſtored againſt the conſequences of that overſight: And as the debts due by the ſaid Archibald M'Donald at the period of the forfeiture, and which were afterwards paid by the public, exceeded the wadſet-ſum before mentioned, ſo that no benefit could accrue to him by reſtoring him to the right of wadſet, with the burden of a ſum equal to or exceeding his debts; the lands, &c. are therefore to be reſtored to Duncan M'Donell, now of Glengary, the grandſon and heir of the aforeſaid John M'Donell of Glengary, and his heirs and aſſigns, upon paying 1667 l. 13 s. 5 d.

As the eſtate of Perth, which became forfeited by the attainder of John Drummond, taking upon himſelf the title of Lord John Drummond, brother to James Drummond, taking on himſelf the title of Duke of Perth, ſtood deviſed before the forfeiture to heirs-male; and as the

ſaid John Drummond died without leaving iſſue lawful of his body, and it is not yet aſcertained who is his neareſt heir-male; the lands, &c. are therefore to be reſtored to the heirs male of the ſaid John Drummond, who would have been intitled to ſucceed by the inveſtitures of the ſaid eſtate, had it not been forfeited, and to the heirs and aſſigns of ſuch heir-male, upon paying 52,547 l. 1 s. 6 d.

As Francis Buchanan, late of Arnpryor, another of the forfeiting perſons, alſo died without lawful iſſue, poſſeſſed of, or intitled to the following lands and eſtates, viz. the eſtate of Arnpryor, and the lands of Stank and Kerinoch, which were deviſed to heirs-general, and the eſtate of Strathyre, and certain parts of the lands of Arnſinlay, which were deviſed to heirs-male; his Majeſty is impowered to diſpone to Mrs Jean Buchanan, widow of the deceaſed John M'Nab of M'Nab, Eſq; ſiſter and heir-general of the ſaid Francis Buchanan, and her heirs and aſſigns, the ſaid eſtate of Arnpryor, and the ſaid lands of Stank and Kerinoch; and to John Buchanan of Auchleſſie, Eſq; the heir-male of the ſaid Francis Buchanan, and his heirs and aſſigns, the ſaid eſtate of Strathyre, and the ſaid parts of the lands of Arnſinlay; upon paying by the ſaid Mrs Buchanan and John Buchanan, jointly and ſeverally, the ſum of 2497 l. 8 s. 3 d.; but the ſaid perſons ſhall have ſuch claims againſt each other to be relieved of the ſaid ſum, either in whole or in part, as they would have had with reſpect to their predeceſſors debts, if there had been no forfeiture.

The one half of the above ſums is to be paid into the exchequer at Martinmas 1786, and the other half at Martinmas 1788.

As the barony and eſtate of Strowan, which formerly belonged to Alexander Robertſon of Strowan, became forfeited in the year 1690, ſubject to the debts then owing by the ſaid Alexander Robertſon, and the eſtate was afterwards given back to his family, and, having come into his poſſeſſion, new debts were contracted by him; but he having again committed treaſon, the gift was recalled, and the eſtate annexed unalienably to the crown; and none of the debts have yet been paid: And whereas the ſaid Alexander Robertſon, late of Strowan, is now dead, without having left iſſue lawful of his body, and the inveſtitures of the ſaid eſtate before the forfeiture ſtood in favour of heirs-male; his Majeſty is authoriſed to diſpone to Lt-Col. Alexander Robertſon, of the 82d regiment, the neareſt heir-male of the ſaid Alexander Robertſon, and his heirs and aſſigns, the barony of Strowan, &c. ſubject to the payment of the debts of the ſaid deceaſed Alexander Robertſon, whether contracted before his forfeiture or afterwards, with an accumulation of intereſt on the debts contracted before the forfeiture as at Chriſtmas 1752; and likewiſe with the burden of paying the debts contracted by Margaret Robertſon, his ſiſter, who ſome time poſſeſſed the eſtate as a truſtee for the family; the ſaid Lt-Col. Alexander Robertſon being bound to relieve the crown and the public of all claims and demands on the eſtate.

And whereas, before the attainder, the eſtates of Ardſheal, Kinlochmoydart, Lochgary, and part of the eſtate of Lochiel, were holden of the Dukes of Argyle and Athol, as ſuperiors, from whom they were acquired by the public, his Majeſty is impowered to diſpone to John Duke of Argyle, his heirs and aſſigns, the ſuperiorities of the lands and eſtates of Ardſheal, Kinlochmoydart, and part of Lochiel, which were formerly holden of his predeceſſor, upon payment of 203 l. 11 s. 5 d. for Ardſheal; 152 l. 5 s. 6 d. for Kinlochmoydart; and 1218 l. 4 s. 5 d. for Lochiel; being the ſums which his predeceſſor received as the value of theſe ſuperiorities; and in like manner to diſpone to John Duke of Athol, his heirs and aſſigns, the ſuperiority of the eſtate of Lochgary, formerly holden of his predeceſſor, upon paying 1674 l. 15 s. for the ſame, being the value which his predeceſſor received; theſe ſeveral ſums to be paid at Whitſunday 1785, with intereſt at 5 per cent. from Martinmas 1784.

The board of truſtees for annexed eſtates is to be diſcontinued from Martinmas 1784, and the grantees are intitled to the rents of the lands for crop 1785.

The ſum of 15,000 l. of the money paid into the exchequer, is to be given for finiſhing the office building at Edinburgh for the records of Scotland, and 50,000 l. towards finiſhing the canal betwixt Forth and Clyde. The intereſt of the money paid by the proprietors of the canal is to be added to the principal as at Martinmas 1784, and thenceforward the whole ſum, together with the money granted by this act, is to be conſidered as the capital

pital ſtock of the company; and when any dividends are made, government is to receive the proportion thereof correſponding to the 50,000 l.; which proportion is to be applied towards making and repairing the roads and bridges in the Highlands of Scotland.

The money ariſing from the forfeited eſtates which ſhall remain in exchequer, after paying the above 50,000 l. and 15,000 l. and annuities to ſome of the officers of the annexed eſtates, is to be ſubject to the future diſpoſition of parliament.

SIR,

I Have always had a particular averſion at any deviations from rectitude in every reſpect.—You will, perhaps, eſteem me ſcrupulouſly nice, affectedly delicate, when I tell you that I cannot bear exceſs nor extravagance in behaviour, in dreſs, or in food; nor yet miſapplication in words, vicious pronunciation, or ungrammatical language in converſation. There is one thing which gives me particular diſguſt, which I obſerve many perſons guilty of;—I mean the aſpiration of all words beginning with a vowel, and rejecting the aſpiration in thoſe which begin with an *h*. Such pronunciation, even from the nectareous lips of the fair, is ungraceful. In hopes that ſome of my acquaintance, who are guilty of this injuſtice to poor *h*, may, upon a fair hearing, be reconciled to him, I have taken the liberty to notify to the world the humble petition of injured *h*.

The humble Petition of diſcarded *h*.

Sheweth,

That many ladies, gentlemen, and likewiſe other perſons of different occupations, trades, character, and diſpoſitions, to whom *h* uſed to have free acceſs, have now either totally forſaken, or aſſociated him with a company of ſtrangers, with which he cuts a moſt ridiculous figure. A young lady, to the great mortification of *h*, obſerved the other day, that *ills* made a pretty contraſt with the vallies below; that the *ouſes* were prettily interſperſed among the woods, and that ſhe was fond of *earing* the *howls* in the evening. She admires the *arbour* of Portſmouth, which contains ſo many ſhips of war. She is afraid at the prancing of a *orſe*, and yet is conſtantly ſhooting *harrows* at ſuſceptible *arts*. In the middle of the ſummer ſhe drinks *hale* at her meals, and *heats hartichoaks* without receiving any *arm* from them. She *ates ot* weather, but likes a clear *Eaven*. And yet, I aſſure you, ſhe is a very *hamiable* young lady. She has fine *air*, ſweet *hies*, quick *hears*, delicate *harms*, and a good *art*.

The clerk of our pariſh, at the concluſion of every prayer, takes in vain the exalted name of *hamen*, while the clergyman cries out, "*Oly! Oly! Oly!* Lord God of *Saba hath!*" and the clerk proceeds to ſay, "*eaven* and *hearth* are full," &c. *Hell*, with theſe people, loſes all its *harſhneſs*, and becomes *ell*. This reminds me of a clergyman, who, having an impediment in his ſpeech, uſed to add an *h* after an *f*, and read, "O Lord *ſhave* the King;" and the clerk, out of compliance, or through the force of example, went on, "and mercifully *ſhear* us when we call upon thee." I mention this to prove the truth of the proverb, "mocking is catching," and the ridiculouſneſs of ſuch pronunciation. *A andſome uſband, ealth and appineſs ere and ereafter*, was a lady's wiſh laſt night. And this morning, meeting a gentleman lightly dreſſed, ſhe obſerved to him he was very *hairy*.

In ſhort, poor *h* is ſo frequently abuſed by people of all denominations, that he is obliged, in this public manner, moſt humbly to beg better uſage for the future, and to remind thoſe who thus wantonly injure him, that they cannot be *happy* without him. He hopes that this will be taken proper notice of, which will be deemed a great favour conferred on *Diſconſolate H.*

State of the BRITISH PEERAGE.

THE Peerage liſt of England has increaſed in the courſe of a century, during the reigns of ſix ſucceſſive Sovereigns, in the following manner:

At the death of King Charles II. the Houſe of Lords conſiſted of 176 members.

At the death of King William III. it conſiſted of 192 members.

At the death of Queen Anne, they amounted to 209 members.

At the death of George I. the Peerage was 216.

At the deceaſe of George II. it had increaſed to 229 members.

And at the preſent time (1784) it amounts to 252 Peers, (Lords Spiritual and Temporal), and is rapidly increaſing.

SIR, *Oxford, May* 1784.

The following ODE I accidentally found as I was turning over a file of old newſpapers. The eaſe with which it is written, the good-humoured ſatire which pervades it, and the incomparable mixture of the ſerious and the gay which alternately ſuddens and delights one, will probably recommend it to your protection.

A familiar Epiſtle, paraphraſed from Horace, and addreſſed to JOE D——, *by his old friend* WILL G——.

THE Muſe, who lov'd him, gave her Will
A boſom free, a ſpirit gay,
A ballad-maker's worn-out quill,
And, thro' the year, three groats a day.
But, fearing he would grow too rich,
She mingled evil with the good;
Gave him for wine a kind of itch,
And ſet his taſte to coſtly food.
Thus, while one evening at the Boar *
He liv'd away at ſix and ſeven,
He faſted for a week or more,
To keep the *pro* and *contra* even.

Good friend, be calm. Why ſhould'ſt thou
Becauſe the nation runs in debt, [fret
And taxes grow on taxes?
Do, pr'ythee, wait till time and tide
A noſtrum for the ill provide,
And North † his hand relaxes.

What is't to thee, if on the ſea
At HIDE AND SEEK our Admirals play
With wags of France and Spain?
Or if our merry Generals chuſe
On rebel ſoil at FAST AND LOOSE
To ſpend a whole campaign?

Tut! thou art ſafe, man, never fear,
The Yankees cannot ſure this year
To Britain waft their fighters:
Thou know'ſt "one Arnold" t'other day
Smother'd the rogues like eels in hay,
And burnt their rotten lighters.

I note, beſides, in thee, dear Joe,
And faith I'm griev'd to find it ſo,
A ſneaking love of gold:
'Twere worth a groat to know how firſt
Avarice ſo free a boſom curſt,——
‡ I fear me thou grow'ſt old.
But ſhall I tell thee how I heard
A Biſhop with a ſapient beard
This paſſion once deride?
He ſaid, (indeed he prov'd it too)
That nature's real wants were few,
And eaſily ſupplied.
Then d—— it:—s'blood! thou mak'ſt me
ſwear——
Why all this toil to ſplit a hair,
And ſwell a uſeleſs heap,
When thou might'ſt rub along at eaſe,
No bairns to breed, no wife to pleaſe,
And live like me dog-cheap?

Believe me, Joe, youth wanes apace:
And ſee already every grace
On tip-toe to be gone:
For hoary age with wrinkled mien,
That ſcares each charm as ſoon as ſeen,
Is hobbling briſkly on.

Oh! then adieu to ſoft delights,
To careleſs days, and amorous nights,
And hours of ſweet repoſe:
Anxiety ſucceeds, and pain
That ſhuts the languid eye in vain,
And all the train of woes.

Doſt thou repine, man? Mark the roſe;
At morn with crimſon tint it glows,
And breathes its ſweets around:
At eve behold it pale and dead,
Its beauty loſt, its fragrance fled,
And withering on the ground.

Mark too the moon: now full and fair
She ſhines, and earth, and ſea, and air
Smile in the yellow gleam;
Anon her glories diſappear,
And not a ſtar that gilds the ſphere
But yields a brighter beam.

Then pr'ythee, ceaſe th'impatient ſtrain;
I bluſh to hear a man complain
That life expires too ſoon.
What's life? The bubble of an hour,
Falſe as the wind, frail as the flower,
And changeful as the moon.

Why wilt thou then, with boundleſs ſchemes,
Diſjointed as a ſick man's dreams,
Perplex thy bounded mind;
And, graſping at the future hour,
Let ſlip the preſent from thy power?
Oh impotent and blind!

* *An inn near the Corn-market, Oxford.*

† *The reader will perceive from this, that this epiſtle was written before the late changes in the political world. For the reſt, the author ſeems to have conſidered Great Britain under the idea of an apple in a cyder preſs, and the premier as the man at the ſcrew. The thought is not a bad one, by the ſame token that his Lordſhip, when he left work, did not ſuffer the engine to relax, but gave it in its ſtrained ſtate to a freſh man, who drew it a little tighter, and gave it to a third, who will probably give it to a fourth, who will give it to a fifth, and ſo on, in æternum, until the poor apple be not only drained of its pulp, but utterly annihilated.*

‡ *Avarice being generally eſteemed the vice of old age: whether from the perverſeneſs of human nature, which gives increaſing value to wealth, while it is every moment becoming of leſs conſequence; or that man,*

"as he grows again towards the earth
Is dull and heavy faſhion'd for the journey;"

as my library is unfortunately in pawn at preſent, I cannot with ſufficient accuracy determine.

Say,

Say, ſhould'ſt thou an ephemeron ſpy,
Would'ſt thou not laugh till either eye
Swam joyouſly in tears,
To hear the ſilly inſect ſay,
"I quit the pleaſures of to-day
To toil for coming years?"

That ſilly inſect, Joe, art thou,
I know it by thy wrinkled brow——
But come; of this no more.
Be once a man, forego thy cares,
Kick Coke on Littleton down ſtairs,
And meet me at the BOAR:

Where idly lolling on the bench,
I with my pipe, thou with thy wench,
For thou, old boy, I know,
Though paſt the hey-day of thy youth,
Haſt ſtill (*cum pace*) a colt's tooth——
What! have I touch'd thee, Joe?

Well then, no wench: thou with thy glaſs,
We'll toaſt the minutes as they paſs,
Regardleſs of the ſcot!
Run o'er the tricks at ſchool we play'd,
How oft we chac'd the parſon's maid——
Odſookers; I forgot.

And how at Coll, we ran our race,
Not like the preſent babes of grace
In thumbing muſty lore:
No books but magazines we read,
At barbarous Latin ſhook our head,
And voted Greek a boar.

Thou too, becauſe thou lov'ſt the tale,
Shalt tell how once, brim-full of ale,
From ſtreet to ſtreet we ran;
Tumbled old women down FOR FUN,
Made Beadles, Pro's, and Proctors run,
And frighten'd the Vice-Can.

And, while the merry jeſt goes round,
Solicitude, in bumpers drown'd,
Shall ceaſe her gloomy reign;
Joy to the cheek her glow impart,
Unclouded hope poſſeſs the heart,
And fancy rule the brain.

Thus ſhall we cheat our night of care,
And life, dear Joe, has much to ſpare:
Then happieſt he who knows,
With love or wine, with mirth or play,
To while the lingering hours away,
Embitter'd leaſt with woes.

But I grow ſerious. Waiter, ho!
More wine here, quick. Enough, ſo, ſo——
Now fill the other pipe:
But do not, if you heed your pate,
Bring ſuch mundungus as of late,
Of oak leaves rotten-ripe.

And you, my jolly hoſt, aye you,
Step out and bid the wandering Jew
Hie hither with his organ:
But charge the rogue upon his life
To leave his miſcreated wife——
I'd rather ſee a Gorgon,
Her long lank locks, before, behind,
Point, like a weathercock, the wind;
And then her hollow ſquinters
Glare from their ſockets fierce and red,
Like candles in an aſs's head,
Or meteors in hard winters.

No: I'll have none.—But come, my friend,
Zounds! muſt I chatter without end,
Like any daw or parrot?
Look! I have wine and muſic too;
The devil's in't if all won't do
To draw thee from thy garret.

And while old Iſaac grinds a tune,
We twain, as briſk as bees in June,
And heedleſs of his frumps,
Will give a boundleſs looſe to joy
And nimbly ſtir our ſtumps, my boy,
And nimbly ſtir our ſtumps.

An HORATIAN EPISTLE:

Being an Anſwer from one Friend to another, who deſired him to recommend a worthy Clergyman as Succeſſor to a vacant Benefice. From the Praxis.

OFT have you, Lælius, importun'd your friend,
A worthy pariſh-prieſt to recommend:
One now I truſt to your peculiar care,
A man of ſenſe and piety ſincere: [gard:
One whom you'll find moſt worthy your re-
'Tis yours, my friend, his merit to reward:
His manner pleaſing, and his taſte refin'd,
His heart for friendſhip form'd, for converſe ſweet his mind;
The powers of eloquence he well diſplays,
Whene'er he ſpeaks in his Creator's praiſe:
A man ſo good can ſcarcely fail to pleaſe;
In him politeneſs joins with artleſs eaſe.
When circling years the feſtal day bring round,
When nought but mirth and jollity is found,
On ſuch occaſions he his ſoul unbends,
And by his ſweet complacence charms his friends.
In diſputation quick,—to him 'tis one
Which ſide th' opponent takes, or *pro* or *con*.
Oft have I ſeen him at a *Chriſtening* ſit,
And charm the liſtening ruſtics with his wit;
Oft have I ſeen him take a *ſober* glaſs,
Oft in a bumper toaſt ſome favourite laſs;
No blab, when mellow; wine can never wreſt
"A ſecret, once intruſted, from his breaſt:"
Beſides, well knowing in th' hiſtoric page,
He tells what happen'd in each former age;
How many various climes he travell'd thro',
And that he kiſs'd his Holineſs's *toe*.
A wife he has moſt exquiſitely fair, [care;
And three ſweet girls, the objects of their
Another yet unborn; and, what is worſe,
My friend is not o'erloaded in the purſe:
'Tis true three churches are his conſtant care;
And what his pay?—ſcarce forty pounds a-year;

His

His worth intitles him to fill a ſtall,
But your fat rectory contents them all.
I've ſaid enough; not one word more I ſend:
Live, and be happy, and eſteem my friend.
Herne, Kent, June 24. 1784. T. W.

PROLOGUE to *Mr* Hayley's *Comedy in Rhyme, called*, The TWO CONNOISSEURS. *Written by Mr* Colman

OUR Manager, long ſince a *Connoiſſeur*,
To gain full houſes throws out many a lure.
By novelty, all rivalſhip to ſmother,
Play follows play,—one juſt as good as t'other:
And now, to lull the dragons of the Pit,
Two Connoiſſeurs take counſel, wit with wit,
As thieves catch thieves, ſo poet convicts poet;
Their plan's all wrong,—and I muſt overthrow it.
I am an author too,—my name is *Bayes*;
My trade is ſcribbling; my chief ſcribbling, plays.
Many I've written, clapp'd by houſes cramm'd,
Acted with vaſt applauſe!—and ſome few *damn'd*:
But ne'er tried aught ſo *low*, or ſo *ſublime*,
As tragedy in proſe, or comedy in rhyme.
A comedy in rhyme! the thought's not new:
'Twas tried long ſince—and then it would not do.
What happy point the dialogue can crown
Set to the hacknied tune of *Derry down*?
What Pegaſus in flight can reach the ſpheres,
With bells, like packhorſe, gingling at his ears?
Smart proſe gives hit for hit, and daſh for daſh,
Joke after joke, like lightning, flaſh on flaſh.
Retort ſo quick, and repartee ſo nimble,
'Tis all Prince Prettyman, and ſharp Tom Thimble!
As the piece ſtands, no critic could endure it,
'Twould die, but *Bayes* has a receipt to cure it—
And little Bayes, egad, has long been known
To make the works of others all his own.
Whate'er your piece,—'tis mine if you rehearſe it;
Verſe I *tranſproſe*, and if proſe, I *tranſverſe* it.
Say but the word, I'll pull this Drama down,
And build it up again to pleaſe the Town.
The thing's untaſhioned,—yet it has ſome ſoul;
The fable's neat,—the characters are droll;
The ſcope and moral has a right intention,
And aſks no added labour of invention.
Rhyme's the mere ſuperſtructure; down it goes;
The old foundation ſhall ſupport my proſe.
If here and there ſome ſparks of genius ſhine,
I will not drop a thought, nor loſe a line—
So damn this play, that you may come to mine!

EPILOGUE. *Written by* E. TOPHAM, *Eſq;*

AS manners alter with the varying times,
To-night you've ſeen *a Comedy in rhymes*;
Where wit—where moral, all in metre flows.
—Say, Would you chuſe an Epilogue in proſe;
"Do, if you dare!"—you'll tell me—Ah! we know it,
There's naught ſo damning as a proſing poet.
Beſides, if, anxious for your country's good,
The *ſcrutiny* hath fir'd your free-born blood;
If the cool veſtry late hath been your care,
Perhaps you've had enough of *proſing* there;
Where the cramm'd poll, before ſo plump and gay,
Leſſens, by law—at half a vote a day—
And, on fair argument and ſound pretence,
A member may be found—ſome ten years hence.
Proſe then we drop; for in this ſtage-ſtruck hour,
Much is the aid we want, and great the power;
For ſure our little army ſoon muſt yield,
When Drury's mighty Monarch takes the field,
When Ruſſel's rival excellence gives birth
To patent tragedies, and mournful mirth;
Where one eternal handkerchief ſcarce dries
Th' exhauſtleſs tears that flow from Bedford's eyes;
Where crape and ſables deaden all the ſcene,
Till Hubert pops his pleaſant head between:
Till James, York, Ruſſel, Peters, all engage,
And boxing Jefferies clears the crowded ſtage.
Oh! had ſuch mighty ſorrows fill'd my mind;
Me—whom ſtage articles and ſalary bind,
The weighty taſk had ſurely broke my heart,
For I'm no Volunteer, and can't depart!
If ſuch of Tragedy the pleaſing pain,
Say—who would ſhut the doors of Drury-lane? [all—
"To act, or not?—to let the houſe—that's
To get a little caſh—or none at all?"
Friends to the trade, and left the market drop,
As one ſhuts up, another opens ſhop;
For now, releas'd from length of patriot toil,
One houſe of *greater actors* ſleeps awhile,
Where wit and argument for ever jar,
And "*Ayes and Noes*" keep up continual war.
Here India triumphs—there unſmuggled tea—
And patronage is balanc'd—by Bohea!
While commutation-window-tax between
Pays her ten pounds—for ten pence ſav'd on green.
Not theſe alone complete the general din:
Without we grumble, as we ſcold within—
The quicken'd Poſt-office laments its cure,
And clerks ſtill wiſh "*their poſts*" were ſlow and ſure.
Such are the novelties whoſe force engage,
With grief or joy, this tragi-comic age!
May we "the living manners" ſtill purſue,
And find your approbation ever new!

HI-

HISTORICAL AFFAIRS.

DENMARK.

Several veſſels lately returned to Copenhagen from Iceland, bring the moſt deplorable accounts of the melancholy ſituation to which the inhabitants are reduced. The diſaſters that country has undergone, are ſuch, that all hopes of an harveſt are entirely at an end. The extremities of famine and diſtreſs are equally felt by the men and cattle, and a great number of both have fallen victims to their complicated miſeries. The fires which broke out in ſeveral places, rage as violently as ever; and the new iſland which had lately emerged from the ſea has totally diſappeared.

The following is the ſubſtance of the ſeveral accounts received from that iſland.

"The ſubterraneous fire which broke out on June 7th laſt year in the weſtern part of Skaptfield's Syſſel, (the diſtrict of Skaptfield) on the mountain Skaptan Gluver, ſpread ſo wide, that marks of its devaſtation are viſible at the diſtance of 20 leagues to the ſouth ſouth-weſt. The conflagration extended to four leagues in breadth, and continued till the month of May this year. The fourth part of the burnt ſoil conſiſted of a very old lava and of marſhes. The burnt earth reſembles a heap of calcined ſtones of the colour of vitriol. The great river of Skaptage which was from ſeven to eight fathoms deep, is entirely dried up. On the eaſt ſide, the fire broke out much about the ſame time in the channel of the Huerviſſiodt nearly of the ſame depth with the Skaptage, but here its breadth was not above a league. The whole extent of ground from which the flames iſſued, is about ten leagues. At firſt the flames darted perpendicularly upwards, and ſeemed to iſſue from a great depth, but afterwards they rolled along the ſurface in waves reſembling thoſe of the ſea; and when they approached the frozen mountains, whoſe bowels are impregnated with ſulphur and nitre, they raged with ſuch fury as to ſweep away in a moment cattle, houſes, and every thing in their way, even the ſoil.—Seventeen diſtricts have been entirely ruined. The hay-harveſt failed, and the inhabitants were obliged to kill great part of their young ſtore about the end of autumn, for want of provender. What little they got in was of ſo bad a quality, that it produced an epidemical diſtemper among the cattle, by which, and the ſeverity of the winter, five ſixths of the cattle and three fourths of the ſheep have periſhed. The inhabitants were obliged to houſe them in the beginning of September, and from Oct. 15. to April 27. there was a continued froſt, and the ground covered with ſnow. Many of the peaſants having loſt their whole ſtock, have been obliged to give up houſe and land. To add to their calamities, the fiſhery has been very unſucceſsful. In ſhort, nothing can equal the diſtreſs of the inhabitants, eſpecially thoſe of the interior parts, who, even if they have wherewithal to purchaſe the neceſſaries of life from the trading towns on the coaſt, cannot carry them home for want of horſes."

UNITED PROVINCES.

The Emperor's ultimate demand from the miniſter of the States-General at the court of Bruſſels, is contained in the following fourteen articles.

1. Agreeable to the repeated declarations of the late Empreſs Queen, and of his Majeſty the Emperor now glorioufly reigning, the limits of Flanders ought to remain on the footing of the convention in the year 1664; and in ſuch places as they have been loſt, by the time that has elapſed ſince that period, or where they are now falling into oblivion, his Majeſty expects that their High Mightineſſes will appoint commiſſioners, to act in conjunction with thoſe whom he has named, for the purpoſe of reſtoring them according to the ſaid convention, that being the only baſis which his Majeſty acknowledges.

2. His Majeſty likewiſe expects that their High Mightineſſes will cauſe part of the works of Fort Liefkenſhock to be demoliſhed, it extending farther than the 6th article of the ſaid convention of 1664 ſtates to be the property of the republic; and alſo, that they will put an end to all the incroachments which have been permitted, particularly that in the extenſive diſtrict of Polder den Doel.

3. His Majeſty requires that the forts of Kruiſchans and of Frederick Henly be demoliſhed and evacuated immediately, the treaty of 1648 being perfectly clear on that head.

4. His Majeſty demands that the works of Fort Lillo, which extend on the territory uſurped from him, be put in all reſpects into the ſame ſtate as they were when.

when in poſſeſſion of the States-General at the time of the ſaid treaty.

5. His Majeſty, who believes himſelf to poſſeſs, in conformity to the treaties, the abſolute and independent ſovereignty of every part of the Eſcaut, from Antwerp to the farther extremity of Saftingen, requires that the guard-ſhip which was placed before Fort Lillo, and which their High Mightineſſes have only removed for the preſent, be taken away for ever, as he cannot think of permitting, throughout the whole of his ſovereignty on the Eſcaut, any veſſel or foreign authority whatever.

6. His Majeſty requires,—That the Republic ſhall ſurrender to him the villages of Bladel and Theuſel, which were ſeized upon by the Republic under pretence of their having formerly belonged to the mayoralty of Boi-le-Duc; whereas, on the contrary, it is evident that the King of Spain was in poſſeſſion of them at the time of the treaty of Munſter, and that they have always been conſidered as belonging to Antwerp.

7. That the States-General, in renouncing their pretenſions to the village of Poſtel, of which they are at preſent in poſſeſſion, reſtore to the abbey of that name the property which they hold on that territory, and which was ſeized upon by them, in direct contradiction to the 13th article of the treaty of Munſter.

8. That the States-General put a ſtop to all incroachments on his evident ſovereignty with reſpect to the lands of Konigſheim, Telogne or Voolen, Grootloon, Heer and Keer, Hoppertingen, Moppertingen, Nederen, Paur, Ruſſen or Rutten, Sluyſen, Sepperen, Falais, Argentrao, and Hermaol; and that all exactions may be refrained from, on the part of their High Mightineſſes, whether under the name of ſubſidy, or any other title, which they have hitherto extorted in thoſe diſtricts, againſt all law and juſtice, and contrary to the rights and ſovereignty of the Emperor.

9. That the States-General, fulfilling the engagements which they entered into by the treaty of the 30th of Auguſt, 1673, finally ſurrender to him the town of Maeſtricht, and the Comte of Vroerhaave, with all its appurtenances in the country beyond the Meuſe, which they at preſent retain unjuſtly, and contrary to the tenor of the above-mentioned treaty.

10. His Majeſty requires the indemnity and reſtitution of all the revenues, profits, and fruits whatever, which the republic, or thoſe employed by them, have received under any name or title, on account of the articles mentioned in this detail.

11. That the States-General indemnify him for all the immenſe loſſes which he has ſuſtained by the duties of entry and going out; by continuing during a long courſe of years, on the expreſs promiſe of a treaty of commerce formed by the Republic, but always eluded, the impoſition of thoſe duties upon a very unfavourable and prejudicial footing.

12. That the States-General render to him the amount of every thing that comes under the title of, or as any way belonging to, the town and marquiſate of Bergen-op-Zoom, the town and barony of Breda, and the other parts of Dutch Brabant; that they pay their quota of the arrears due on the former aids of the province of Brabant; and that, excluſive of the entire reſtitution of the capital from the moment when they came into the poſſeſſion of the Republic, the States-General ſhall in future pay their ſhare upon a footing that ſhall be agreed upon.

13. His Majeſty demands the reſtitution of, or payment for, all the artillery and warlike ſtores which were left under their care when their troops went into garriſon in ſeveral parts of the country. His Majeſty at the ſame time demands the payment of two millions of livres, which was to have been paid by France to the Republic by virtue of the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, under the title of warlike ſtores brought from thoſe places during the war.

14. That the States-General pay to all corporations and individuals, mentioned in the annexed note, the capital ſums there ſtated, with the intereſt due upon them.

1ſt, "The States of Namur delivered, by virtue of an arrangement with the Dutch governor of Namur, and with the conſent of their High Mightineſſes, on the 12th of July 1746, cattle to the amount of Fl. 8236:1 for the maintenance of the garriſon; for which they have hitherto ſolicited payment in vain.

2dly, "The magiſtracy of Namur delivered, in the year 1746, cattle to the amount of Fl. 5268:6 for the ſupport of the garriſon, which they have never been paid.

3*dly*,

3*dly*, "The following individuals, Hannouſt, Gabriel, Outerblande, and Maneſſe, delivered, by order of the governor of Namur, for the ſervice of the garriſon during the ſiege in 1746, beds and bedding to the amount of Fl. 37862:21, which they have not been paid for, tho' theſe goods were taxed by the Dutch hoſtages at the reduction of the place.

4*thly*, "The regency of Tournay is to be ſatisfied for all the debts contracted on the part of the States-General, by General Dorth, during the ſiege of 1745, making the ſum of Fl. 8224:7:1, and the further ſum of Fl. 14689:9, due to ſeveral private perſons in that diſtrict. The above General gave in the ſame year a formal acknowledgement, in the names of the States-General, for the above debts; but all attempts for obtaining the payment of them have been hitherto fruitleſs.

5*thly*, "The following individuals, Martin Robins, Pierre Langood, Henry Heyman, and N. Caſtro, ſupplied the troops of the Republic, in 1709, 1710, 1712, and 1715, with proviſions and forage to the amount of Fl. 263362:15 Dutch money, no part of which has been paid, though ſeveral decrees in their favour have been paſſed by the State Council, particularly in 1721 and 1729."

Hague, July 11. On Thurſday laſt the States of Holland, Weſt Frieſland, &c. ſent a ſolemn deputation to his Serene Highneſs the Stadtholder, the object of which was, to repreſent to his Moſt Serene Highneſs, that the wiſh of the nation being, that the Duke of Brunſwick be diſmiſſed from his employments, and retire from the territory of the Republic, his Moſt Serene Highneſs would perſuade the Field-Marſhal to demand himſelf his diſmiſſion, and in that caſe their Noble and Great Mightineſſes would uſe their influence that he may preſerve his appointments.

Hague, July 15. The anſwer which his Serene Highneſs was pleaſed to return to the above requiſition, concludes thus: "I cannot prevail upon myſelf to comply with the deſires of the deputies: in fine, I here repeat the declaration I have made before, that nothing can give me more ſatisfaction than the reſtoration of peace and harmony in this country, upon ſolid grounds, and conformable to the principles of the conſtitution; but I am convinced, the diſmiſſion of the Duke cannot contribute to the re-eſtabliſhment of that harmony ſo much to be deſired."

Hague, Aug. 19. The States of Holland and Weſt Frieſland came to a final reſolution on the 18th to diſmiſs his Serene Highneſs the Duke of Brunſwick-Lunenburg, Field Marſhall in the ſervice of the Republic, from all his employments; and that his appointments ariſing therefrom ſhall ceaſe from the 31ſt of next December.

SPAIN.

Great preparations have been made, for ſome time paſt, for the expedition againſt Algiers. The force ſent againſt the place conſiſted of ſeven ſhips of the line, four of which were Spaniſh, two Neapolitan, and one from Malta: eight frigates; four Spaniſh, two Neapolitan, and two Malteſe: twelve xebecks; ten Spaniſh, and two Neapolitan: eight brigantines; ſix Spaniſh, two Neapolitan: four Malta gallies carrying three guns each; and two Spaniſh galliots, with the following boats, after the conſtruction of the brave Admiral Barcelo: twenty-four for 13 inch bombs, eleven for howitzers, and thirty-ſix for braſs 24 pounders; with ſix boarding boats, upon a new conſtruction.

With the above force they ſailed from Carthagena on the 26th of June laſt, under the command of the Spaniſh Admiral Don Barcelo, who gives the following account in his letter to the marine miniſter of Spain. That his whole fleet being arrived before Algiers, on the 12th he gave orders for an attack to be made at half an houf paſt four; "I ordered out the gun boats and the large veſſels which were to ſupport them, by endeavouring to take ſuch ſituations as might afford them the opportunities of annoying the enemy during the action. At five o'clock a gun was fired from the place, and I perceived their ſhips formed in good order. At the ſame time I ordered my fleet to form a line and advance. At half paſt ſix, every thing being ready, I embarked in my ſafe-guard, and with Maj.-Gen. Don Joſeph de Goycochea, and the adjutants, paſſed along the different ſmall veſſels, in order to arrange them in their proper places, which was done to my ſatisfaction. While I was making theſe diſpoſitions, the enemy had arranged their gun boats and gallies, in number 67, from fort Barbaton on the ſouth ſide, to the Mole on the north ſide; the line

formed by our ſhips was carried as far ſouth as poſſible, as I obſerved, that upon that ſide there were fewer guns upon the fortifications. A bomb was fired from the place, which paſſed our line more than 100 toiſes, which confirmed my opinion, that we were now in a ſituation to make our fire tell. Some minutes after eight, I gave orders for the firing to begin, which was kept up by our line with the greateſt ſpirit, and with ſtrict attention to my ſignals, which were repeated by my major. The firing laſted ten hours and twenty minutes, when I gave orders to retreat in good order, as the ammunition of all the ſhips was conſumed.

The attack was admirably ſupported by our line, and great aſſiſtance was given by the galleys, St Jean of Maltha, and the galleon St Antoine, and the Spaniſh and Neapolitan brigantines, which covered the right and left wings, and diſtinguiſhed themſelves by an uncommon intrepidity and courage.

During the attack, it was obſerved, that our fire took conſtant effect, which aſſured us, that the houſes were deſtroyed; and they were not able to quench the fire until four o'clock in the evening. Four of the enemy's ſhips blew up in the action.

The following is a ſtatement of our loſs. In the bomb ſhip, N° 23. a bomb burſt, by which accident ſeven men were killed and ſix wounded, four of them dangerouſly. In the howitzer, N° 10. Don Ignatio Munoz, lieutenant of artillery, and a ſhip-boy, were ſlightly wounded. In the bomb-ſhip, N° 19. an engineer was conſiderably wounded In the ſhips no damage was done; and in the gun-boats commanded by the Neapolitan officers, two matroſſes were killed by their cartouches taking fire while they were charging a cannon. The number of ſhot fired by the enemy amounts to 202 bombs, and 1164 bullets; and on our part were fired 600 bombs, 144 bullets, and 260 grenades.

Soon after we perceived again the fortification-ſhips, and gave orders to repeat the attack in the afternoon; but the eaſt wind becoming very ſtrong, we could not execute our attempt. I intend to make the ſame effort to morrow, if the wind permits. It is remarkable how contrary and irregular the winds are on this ſtation.

In the afternoon, the gun-boat, N° 27. unfortunately blew up. Don Joſeph Rodriguez, and D. Carlos de Arſand, the firſt enſign of the ſhip, and the ſecond of a frigate, periſhed. As it is late, we know not the numbers of men who have ſhared the ſame fate, as no more than ſix have yet appeared to have been ſaved.

On the 20th we had, in the bay of Algier, a high wind at N. W. with a turbulent ſea; the weather became calm during the night. In the morning the wind changed to the ſouth; and a very thick fog aroſe. At half paſt ſix o'clock, the General ordered the ſhips deſtined to ſupport our boats, to poſt themſelves within reach of the place; the fog being diſſipated in an hour, we ſaw twenty-ſix of the enemy's boats, which at eight o'clock were increaſed to ſixty-ſeven. Our line which had been formed, advanced, in order to place the bomb veſſels at a proper diſtance to ſecure the effect of their fire. At thirty-ſix minutes after eight, the enemy commenced their fire to diſperſe us. Our bomb-veſſels, at thirty-nine minutes after eight, returned the fire; but as they were at too great a diſtance, the general in vain made the ſignal to ſuſpend it; our gun-boats which were within reach firing caſe-ſhot, prevented the knowledge of his intentions. At twenty minutes after ten, the Algerine boats retired, and our retreat was not made till three minutes after eleven. We had made 1400 diſcharges of cannon-ball and caſe-ſhot, 415 bombs, and 275 granades. The enemy had fired againſt us 121 bombs, and 1950 balls. D. Prudencio Rebolo, a Portugueſe marine officer, who was on that day on board the bomb-boat, N° 1. a volunteer, was killed, and two tailors were wounded in the boat, N° 7. The eighth attack was the laſt. The ſame night the general called all the principal officers of the ſquadron to a council, to deliberate whether it was proper to continue the operations. His deſign was to try another general attack, and to go himſelf on board one of the bomb-veſſels; but the unanimous advice of the officers, both Spaniards and their allies, was, that prudence forbade perſiſting and expoſing the life of the General; and a retreat was determined on. We are now employed in embarking on board the ſhips, the cannon, mortars, and ammunition; we furniſhed the veſſels deſtined for cruiſing. Theſe occupations continued till the 22d at night, as the ſea became more agitated, and the wind

wind more violent; the tempeſtuous weather increaſed ſtill more next morning: the Commander's ſhip, and ſome others, drove on their anchors, and the chebeck the Catalan broke her cables. The order for hoiſting in the anchors was given to the whole ſquadron, which ſteered back for Carthagena."

AMERICA.

New Providence (New England). The queſtion, which has been long agitated, was, on June 28. again ſolemnly debated in the general aſſembly of this ſtate (Whether this ſtate will veſt Congreſs with a power to levy an impoſt of 5 per cent. on all goods imported from foreign parts?) and negatived by a great majority. At the ſame time, they paſſed an act for levying and paying into the public treaſury the ſum of 20,000 l.; and likewiſe an act for adding one half per cent. to the ſtate-impoſt of 2 per cent. on all importations from foreign parts.

The general aſſembly of *Maſſachuſets* have paſſed a duty of 4 d. a ton on all foreign veſſels, to be paid to the naval officers where they ſhall clear out.

In the ſenate of *Virginia*, on the 26th of June, it was reſolved, that Great Britain had made an infraction of the 7th article of the treaty of peace, by not reſtoring the ſlaves and negroes, and other property of the United States; and that a juſt regard to the national honour requires, that this aſſembly do with-hold their co-operation in the compleat fulfilment of the ſaid treaty, until reparation be made. And that, as ſoon as reparation ſhall be made, all ſuch acts of the legiſlature as inhibit the recovery of Britiſh debts ſhall be repealed. An amendment was propoſed, for manifeſting to the world the juſtice and regard of the citizens of this commonwealth, by repealing forthwith all ſuch laws, and leaving it to Congreſs to inquire into the breach of the peace by Great Britain. The amendment was negatived, and the original motion carried, 13 to 6. On which a proteſt was entered, ſigned by the ſix diſſenting members.

A prohibition has taken place in *South Carolina*, of the exportation of rice, corn, and peaſe, for one month from the 25th of June, on account of the ſevere drought they have had for ſome time paſt. Rice is riſen to 21 s. per 100 lb. but ſcarcely any can be got.

EAST INDIES.

From the LONDON GAZETTE.

Extract of a Letter from the Preſident and Council of Bombay, to the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors of the Eaſt India Company, tranſmitted to the Rt Hon. Lord Sydney, his Majeſty's principal Secretary of State for the home department. Dated, Bombay Caſtle, April 7. 1784. Received over Land, Aug. 3.

A few hours after we had cloſed our accompanying addreſs of the 31ſt ult. on the 1ſt inſtant, we were informed, by advices from Lt-Col. Barry, of the 12th, that the treaty of peace between the Hon. Company and the Nabob Tippoo Sultan had been actually ſigned the night before.

Yeſterday, by the return of the Scorpion from Tellicherry, we received two letters from the commiſſioners, Meſſ. Staunton and Haddleſton, of the 12th and 18th ult. incloſing a copy of the treaty itſelf, and an addreſs to the Hon. the Court of Directors, which we now have the honour to tranſmit with this.

We embrace this early opportunity of congratulating your Honours on this happy event having at length taken place, and of peace being reſtored to your ſettlements in India.

Heads of the above Treaty.

Preliminary declaration, That the Engliſh Commiſſioners act under full powers from the Governor-General and Council. Tippoo Sultan ſigns the treaty himſelf.

Article I. Peace and friendſhip immediately to take place between Tippoo and the Engliſh, and their reſpective allies. No aſſiſtance to be given in future by either party to the enemies of the other.

II. Immediately after the ſigning the treaty, the Carnatic to be evacuated, and all the priſoners, European and native, to be releaſed in thirty days. The Company to releaſe the priſoners taken by them from Tippoo.

III. Immediately after ſigning the treaty, the Engliſh to deliver up all the places they have taken from Tippoo.

IV. When the priſoners are releaſed and delivered, the Engliſh to give up the fort and diſtrict of Cananore; and at the ſame time Ambourgin and Satgur

to be delivered by Tippoo to the Engliſh.

V. No future claim to be made upon the Carnatic by Tippoo.

VI. All natives carried away from the Carnatic by Hyder Ally Cawn during the late war, to be permitted to return to their dwellings in the Carnatic and Tanjore; and, in like manner, all ſubjects of Tippoo Sultan to be permitted to return to his country.

VII. This being the happy period of general peace and reconciliation, the Nabob Tippoo Sultan Bahadre, as a teſtimony and proof of friendſhip to the Engliſh, agrees that the Rajahs or Zemindars on his coaſt, who have favoured the Engliſh in the late war, ſhall not be moleſted on that account.

VIII. Tippoo Sultan confirms all commercial privileges hitherto granted to the Engliſh.

IX. Tippoo reſtores the factory of Callicut, and the diſtricts about Tillicherry.

X. The treaty to be ſigned and ſealed by commiſſioners, and returned by the Preſident and Select Committee of Fort St George, within one month, or ſooner if poſſible; and acknowledged by the Governor General and Council, and the Government of Bombay, and a copy returned in three months, or ſooner if poſſible.

Signed, on the 11th of March 1784, by

ANTHONY SADLIER,
GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON,
JOHN HUDDLESTONE.
TIPPOO SULTAN BAHADRE.

ENGLAND.

On July 15. a general court was held at the Eaſt India houſe, ſummoned by the directors, for taking into conſideration Mr Pitt's India regulating bill, then depending in parliament. Mr Smith, chairman, gave an account of the interview which the committee of directors had with Mr Pitt the ſame morning; in which it appeared, that after the directors had ſtated their objections to the bill, which Mr Pitt heard out very patiently, he informed the directors, that as far as his individual intereſt went, they might depend he would moderate it as much as poſſible to accommodate the ideas of the directors; but that he was only one of the cabinet, who had ſpent ſome time in framing this bill, and he would anſwer only for himſelf. The chairman thought, that the committee preſt home upon the miniſter their opinion of the exceptionable parts of the bill; and, from the aſſurance they had received, could not doubt but Mr Pitt was ſincere in his declaration.

Mr Atkinſon roſe next to confirm what had been ſpoken to by his brother director, and ſaid, that he had no doubt but that any exceptionable parts of the bill would at leaſt be moderated, if not entirely withdrawn. He ſaid, the directors were at preſent in conſideration of the very heart of the bill, which they had ſat upon till eleven o'clock laſt night, and would, probably, ſit as late this night to finiſh the remainder, that ſuch of the directors as were in parliament might be prepared on its third reading.

Mr Adair reprobated the bill in every iota of it. Mr Fox's bill, with all the faults that had been aſſigned, was in every inſtance much preferable to the preſent, which ſtruck not only at the liberties of individuals, but alſo at the rights and conſtitution of the nation at large. He compared the ſtate-tinkers to one of the travelling ſort, who, in mending one hole, was ſure to open three or four others.

Gov. Johnſtone declared, that the bill was pregnant with numberleſs evils, which none but thoſe immediately connected with India affairs could conceive. For his own part, he could not have ſuppoſed Mr Pitt competent to the ſupporting, and much leſs to the framing ſuch a bill; eſpecially after the oppoſition he had raiſed to that brought in under a late adminiſtration. After a variety of arguments, the Governor declared his intention and wiſh to oppoſe the bill in the other Houſe, if it ſhould even paſs the Houſe of Commons.

Mr Courcy ſaid, that as it appeared Mr Pitt was deſirous to accommodate the bill to the wiſhes of the Company, and the blanks being not yet filled up, he would move an adjournment; which, on being put, was agreed to.

Another general court was held on the 20th, when the chairman informed the proprietors, that the bill being now completely filled up, the clerk would read the whole, as it now ſtood in the committee of the Houſe of Commons.

The clerk then read the bill clauſe by clauſe, the chairman making remarks upon the ſeveral alterations which had been made agreeable to Mr Pitt's declaration to the committee of Directors, who had laid

laid before him ſuch paſſages as had been objected to by the proprietors at the laſt general court. After the whole had been gone through, the chairman ſaid, that as all the exceptionable paſſages were now removed, he hoped the court would at leaſt give the Directors credit for the pains they had taken, and alſo to the committee who had conferred with the miniſter upon the ſubject. He knew that ſome objections would ſtill lie; but for his own part, as a bill for regulation had become neceſſary, and the government had ſhewn ſo much willingneſs to oblige the Company, where the intereſt of the public, which the Firſt Lord of the Treaſury had declared was his leading object, was not detrimented, he conceived the court would ſee the bill in its preſent ſtate as the beſt that could be procured, and that no oppoſition was neceſſary.

A deſultory converſation upon this took place, in which the Directors and Proprietors mutually joined. On the one ſide it was argued, that a better bill was not to be obtained; and on the other, that the bill yet had many objections to be made to it. Credit, however, was due to Mr Pitt for the regard he had paid to the advice which had been given to him from different quarters.

A further oppoſition to the bill was underſtood to be given up, and the court adjourned *ſine die*.

London, Aug. 10. The reform in the conduct of the poſt-office [p. 386.] is likely to be attended with very conſiderable advantages to the country. Trial of its merits commenced on the Briſtol-road Monday the 2d inſtant, and letters from thence, as well as the converſation upon the Royal Exchange, ſpeak in high terms of its ſucceſs. Beſides the ſecurity with which bills, &c. may now be ſent per poſt, (as this conveyance is attended by a guard every inch of the road, at the expence of government), its increaſed ſpeed is productive of innumerable advantages. From the London poſt-office to that of Briſtol is 125 miles; the mail uſed to be on the road till the third day after its departure, whereas now the diſpatches of one afternoon are delivered at the above diſtance the next morning, and ſufficient time allowed for the correſpondent to prepare an anſwer previous to the return of the mail the ſame afternoon. Independent of the increaſe which this plan will bring to the revenue, there is every reaſon to believe that its very beneficial operations will induce government to render the plan general all over the country as ſpeedily as poſſible.

Copy of a Note from Lord G. Gordon to Lord Sydney, one of his Majeſty's Principal Secretaries of State.

Lord George Gordon preſents his compliments to Lord Sydney, and requeſts to know whether his Lordſhip will do him the honour to preſent his petition to the Houſe of Lords againſt the bill now before their Lordſhips, for reſtoring to the preſent claimants the eſtates of their anceſtors, forfeited to the crown for their adherence to the cauſe and perſons of the ancient royal family of Stuart, in the year 1745, in oppoſition to the illuſtrious houſe of Hanover? Lord George begs an anſwer by the bearer. Lord George hopes Lord Sydney will ſee the propriety of Lord George's diſpatch and haſte in this buſineſs, when Lord Sydney reflects on the nimbleneſs the Houſe of Commons have ſhewn on the occaſion; and when his Lordſhip alſo calls to mind, that it is Lord George's indiſpenſable duty to acquaint the Duke de Melfort, the Count de Melfort, Lord Louis Drummond, and Lord Henry Drummond, his relations at Paris, and the Preſbyterian party, his friends in Scotland, with all the proceedings of the court-party and the legiſlature in this new ſcheme.

Welbeck ſtreet, Auguſt 11.

Lord Sydney's Anſwer.

Lord Sydney preſents his compliments to Lord George Gordon, and thinks it neceſſary to acquaint his Lordſhip, that he cannot engage to preſent a petition without knowing its contents. Lord Sydney's opinion is very much in favour of the bill, which has already received the ſupport of his friends in the Houſe of Commons; he thinks therefore that Lord George Gordon will ſee more propriety in putting his petition into other hands.

Albemarle ſtreet, Auguſt 12.

The London Gazette of Auguſt 14. contains a proclamation to the following purport.

"Whereas it has been repreſented to us, that on the 16th day of July laſt, a great number of diſorderly perſons, armed with fire-arms, aſſembled themſelves at the north end of Deal in our county of Kent, and being ſo aſſembled and armed, forcibly obſtructed, reſiſted, and fired upon the crews of the boats acting under

der the orders of Lieut. Bray, in purſuit of a galley rowed with ſix oars, contrary to the ſtatute in that caſe made and provided: And whereas it has alſo been repreſented to us, that on the 2d day of Auguſt laſt, a great number of diſorderly perſons, armed with fire-arms, aſſembled themſelves at Deal aforeſaid, and forcibly obſtructed the officers and men of the boats belonging to the ſhip Scout, acting under the orders of Capt. Lindſay, and endeavouring to ſeize a lugger, ſuſpected of carrying on illicit trade; and that William Ruſſel, a ſeaman belonging to the Scout, was, by ſome perſon or perſons ſo armed and aſſembled, ſhot in the execution of his duty: We therefore, being deeply ſenſible of the many miſchievous conſequences that muſt inevitably enſue to the peace of our kingdom, the collection of the public revenue, and the lives of our loving ſubjects, from ſuch wicked and daring outrages, if they ſhall go unpuniſhed, and in order to deter all others from committing the like for the future, have thought fit, by and with the advice of our Privy Council, to iſſue this our royal proclamation; and we do hereby ſtrictly charge and command, all magiſtrates, and other civil officers whatſoever, and all other our ſubjects, to be aiding and aſſiſting, to the utmoſt of their power, in ſuppreſſing ſuch illegal and tumultuous aſſemblies, and in detecting, apprehending, and bringing to juſtice, the perſons concerned in inſtigating the ſame, and guilty of any of the violences before mentioned: And we do hereby promiſe and declare, That if any perſon or perſons concerned in tumultuouſly and forcibly reſiſting and obſtructing the officers and men acting under the orders of Lieut. Bray or Capt. Lindſay, on the 16th day of July, or 2d day of Auguſt laſt, ſhall, on or before the 20th day of October next, and before ſuch perſon or perſons ſhall be in cuſtody for the ſame, diſcover and apprehend, or cauſe to be diſcovered and apprehended, any other perſon or perſons who hath or have, or ſhall have been concerned in any of the ſaid heinous offences, ſo that he, ſhe, or they, may be convicted thereof, ſuch diſcoverer or diſcoverers ſhall have our moſt gracious pardon for the ſaid offences." The proclamation concludes with offering a reward of 200l. to any perſon who ſhall before the 20th of October diſcover any of the offenders.

To the Rt Hon. W. Pitt, &c. &c. &c.

Rt Hon. Sir, *London, Aug.* 20.

The diſtreſſes of my country have awakened in my breaſt a monitor, which informs me, that in my younger days, when I followed the ſeas, and carried adventures as moſt ſeamen do, and by which the revenue was injured, I acted wrong; in conſequence of which conviction, I have, Rt Hon. Sir, incloſed Three Hundred Pounds in bank bills, which is a vaſt ſum out of the ſmall fortune I am poſſeſſed of, which I humbly requeſt may be applied to the ſervice of my country, humbly hoping, for the quiet of my conſcience, that I may be included in the act of indemnity, which is about to paſs; and I take further the liberty of aſſuring you, that I have never acted with violence againſt the laws of my country, nor have been a common ſmuggler; that there is no proceſs out againſt me, nor can any perſon whatever take one out againſt me. Humbly hoping that what I have done and ſaid may meet with your's and my country's approbation, and intitle me to be particularly mentioned in the act, I take the liberty of adding, that I am, with the utmoſt reſpect, for your many virtues, Rt Hon. Sir, your moſt humble, moſt devoted, and obedient ſervant,

T. T.

I humbly deſire, that on the receiving the aforementioned bills, it may be acknowledged in the Gazette, and the London Chronicle. *Lond. gaz.*

On Friday, Auguſt 20. his Majeſty went to the Houſe of Peers, and being ſeated on the throne, the Commons were ſent for, and being come with their Speaker, the royal aſſent was given to the tea and window tax duty bill, the game bill, the poſtage bill, the ſilk duty bill, the pawnbrokers bill, the lead exportation bill, and ſome others; after which his Majeſty made the following moſt gracious ſpeech from the throne:

"*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

I cannot cloſe this ſeſſion of parliament, without returning you my warmeſt thanks, for the eminent proofs you have given of your zealous and diligent attention to the public ſervice.

The happieſt effects may be expected from the proviſions which you have made for the better government of India, and from the inſtitution of a tribunal ſo peculiarly

culiarly adapted to the trial of offences committed in that diſtant country.

I obſerve with great ſatisfaction the laws which you have paſſed for the preſervation and improvement of the revenue. No exertions ſhall be wanting on my part to give them vigour and effect.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

The zeal and liberality with which you have provided for the exigencies of the public ſervice, and the aſſiſtance which you have given me to prevent a growing arrear in the expences of my civil liſt, demand my particular thanks.

I feel in common with you for the unavoidable burthens of my people.

The importance of effectually ſupporting our national credit, after a long and exhauſting war, can alone reconcile me to ſo painful a neceſſity. I truſt the ſame conſideration will enable my faithful ſubjects to meet it, as they have uniformly done, with fortitude and patience.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The definitive treaty which has been ſigned with the States-General of the United Provinces, and the peace concluded in India, as well as the aſſurances which I receive from foreign powers, promiſe the continuance of general tranquillity.

I truſt, therefore, that, after ſo laborious a ſeſſion, it will not be found neceſſary to call you again together at a very early period.

Many important objects with reſpect to our trade and commerce, which could not now be provided for, will naturally require your attention after the receſs; and ſuch regulations will, I truſt, be framed, after a full inveſtigation, as ſhall be found beſt calculated to promote the wealth and proſperity of all the parts of the empire."

Then the parliament was prorogued.

An advertiſement to the following purport, dated, General Poſt-office, Aug. 21. was publiſhed in the London papers.

Public notice is hereby given, That, by an act paſſed in the laſt ſeſſion of parliament, *For granting to his Majeſty, certain additional rates of poſtage, &c.* it is enacted, That after the 31ſt inſtant, all Letters and Packets, to and from places, not exceeding 150 miles, within *England*, ſhall pay in addition, ſingle, 1d. and ſo in proportion.

That letters and packets above 150 miles, within *England*, ſhall pay in addition, ſingle, 2d. and ſo in proportion.

That letters and packets to or from the General Poſt-office in *London*, to or from the city of *Edinburgh*, *Dumfries*, *Cockburnſpeth*, ſhall pay in addition, ſingle, 1d. and ſo in proportion.

That letters and packets above one poſt ſtage, and not exceeding 150 miles, within *Scotland*, ſhall pay in addition, ſingle, 1d. and ſo in proportion.

That letters and packets above 150 miles, within *Scotland*, ſhall pay in addition, ſingle, 2d. and ſo in proportion.

It is provided, that no letter to or from *Glaſgow*, or the intermediate places by *Carliſle*, not paſſing through *London*, ſhall pay an higher rate than if ſent through *Edinburgh* to or from *Glaſgow*, and that no letter or packet ſent to or from *Edinburgh*, or any intermediate place in *England* and *Scotland*, north of *London*, ſhall pay an higher rate than 7d. for a ſingle letter, and ſo in proportion.

It is further provided, that no letter or packet, together with its contents, ſhall be taxed at an higher rate than as a triple letter, unleſs it weigh an ounce, when it ſhall be rated as four ſingle letters; and every quarter of an ounce above that weight ſhall be charged as a ſingle letter.

It is likewiſe enacted, That after the laſt ſeſſion of parliament, no letter or packet ſent by poſt within G. Britain, directed by any member of either Houſe of parliament, ſhall be exempted from poſtage, unleſs the whole ſuperſcription be of the hand-writing of the member, and ſhall have indorſed thereon, in the ſame hand-writing, the name of the member, poſt town from whence the ſame is to be ſent, and the day, month, and year, when put into the poſt-office, the day of the month to be in words at length, and unleſs every ſuch letter ſhall be put into the general, or other poſt-office, or into a receiving houſe, on the day of the date put upon ſuch letter: and no letter or packet directed to any ſuch member ſhall be exempted from the duty of poſtage, unleſs ſuch as ſhall, during the ſitting of parliament, or within 40 days before, or 40 days after any ſummons, or prorogation thereof, be directed to any ſuch member, at the place where he ſhall actually be at the time of the delivery thereof, or at his uſual place of reſidence in London, or at the Houſe, or lobby of the Houſe of Parliament of which he is a member.

It

It is further enacted, That all perſons who, by virtue of their offices, ſend and receive letters and packets free of poſtage, ſhall ſend and receive them free, under ſuch reſtrictions as any member of parliament.

It is alſo enacted, That any perſon forging or counterfeiting the hand-writing of any perſon whatſoever, in order to avoid the payment of poſtage, ſhall be deemed guilty of felony, and ſhall be tranſported for ſeven years.

It is recommended to the members of both Houſes of Parliament, to write the name of the poſt-town, and the date in words at length, at the top of the ſuperſcription of their letters, that it may be diſtinct from the direction underneath.

IRELAND.

Dublin, June 21. Saturday ſe'ennight a number of perſons, about ſeven o'clock in the morning, aſſembled in a riotous manner before the houſe of Mr Alexander Clarke, maſter tailor; and eight or nine of them having forcibly entered, they ſtripped him quite naked, and with a bruſh beſmeared him with tar, aſſigning, as their reaſon, that he was an importer of Engliſh cloth.—A proclamation has ſince been iſſued, for apprehending the ringleaders.

Petition to his Majeſty, agreed upon at the aggregate meeting of the Citizens of Dublin, on Monday, June 21.

To the KING's Moſt Excellent Majeſty.

The Humble Petition of the Freemen, Freeholders, and Inhabitants of the City of Dublin.

Moſt Gracious Sovereign,

Permit us, your loyal and dutiful ſubjects, with every ſentiment of duty and attachment to your Majeſty's perſon, family, and government, to approach the throne with the greateſt reſpect and humility, to lay a national grievance, of the higheſt importance to your crown and dignity, and to the liberties and properties of your people of Ireland, at your Majeſty's feet.

The grievance your diſtreſſed ſubjects thus humbly preſume to lay before your Majeſty, is the preſent illegal and inadequate repreſentation of the people of this kingdom in parliament—illegal, becauſe the returns of the members for boroughs are not agreeable to the charters granted for that purpoſe by the Crown; and inadequate, becauſe there are as many members returned for each of thoſe boroughs, by a few voters, as are returned for any county or city in this kingdom.

Born in a country where your petitioners, from their earlieſt infancy, were taught to believe the laws for their government paſſed through a Houſe of Commons elected by the people, they conceived their liberties founded on the moſt firm baſis: but finding laws paſſed, inimical to your Majeſty's crown, and to their rights, (which are inſeparable), they were led into a minute inquiry of the cauſe, and diſcovering the ſame to proceed from the preſent inſufficient mode of repreſentation, and the long duration of parliament, which render even the few members who are conſtitutionally elected, nearly independent of their conſtituents,—they now moſt humbly beg leave to inform your Majeſty, that men thus elected, ceaſe to have any weight with your people.

It is to the grand cauſe of an ariſtocratic influence, (jealous, as all inordinate power muſt be, of whatever may tend to ſhake its eſtabliſhment), and to the miſrepreſentations which have been tranſmitted to your Majeſty, of your faithful ſubjects of Ireland, that we attribute many arbitrary and alarming proceedings in the laſt ſeſſion of our parliament.

A bill for the more equal repreſentation of the people (the deſire of millions of your faithful ſubjects) has been refuſed even a diſcuſſion in our parliament.

Protection has been denied to our infant trade and manufactures, which England thinks neceſſary to the maturity and vigour of hers.

A violent attack has been made on the liberty of the preſs—that ſupplement to the laws, and palladium of liberty—a terror only to tyrants and apoſtates.

Alarming reſtrictions on the commercial and friendly communications of your Majeſty's ſubjects, have been impoſed by the poſt-office act.

A general ſyſtem of prodigality ſeems to have been adopted, for the purpoſe of burthening our trade, and damping all ſpirit of induſtry; and emigrations conſequently encouraged, and now increaſing to an alarming degree.

A manifeſt infringement has been made on the ancient and ſacred charters of this realm; and inſtead of the conſtitutional trial by jury, a novel tribunal inſtituted, from

from whoſe ſentence there lies no appeal.

It is with infinite concern we are obliged to add, that your Majeſty's miniſters in this kingdom have aſſiſted in all the meaſures of which we thus humbly complain; — a circumſtance the more extraordinary, as your Majeſty has lately thought it neceſſary to appeal to the Britiſh electors at large, againſt the power of an ariſtocracy; and as your Majeſty's firſt miniſter in England has virtuouſly declared himſelf friendly to the principal meaſure which has been here rejected — we mean a more equal repreſentation of the people; convinced that an overbearing ariſtocracy is not leſs hoſtile to the liberties of the ſubject, than to the prerogative of the crown.

We farther intreat your Majeſty's permiſſion to condemn that remnant of the penal code of laws, which ſtill oppreſſes our Roman-Catholic fellow-ſubjects; — laws which tend to prohibit education and liberality, reſtrain certain privileges, and to proſcribe induſtry, love of liberty, and patriotiſm.

Deeply affected by theſe national calamities, we, your Majeſty's faithful and loyal ſubjects, the citizens of Dublin, do therefore moſt humbly beg leave to ſupplicate your Majeſty, that you will be graciouſly pleaſed to exerciſe your royal prerogative, in the diſſolution of the preſent parliament, not doubting but your petitioners will experience the like paternal protection which your Majeſty lately afforded to your Britiſh ſubjects — eſpecially as upon a late occaſion your Majeſty was pleaſed to declare your royal inclination to adopt, with deciſion and effect, whatever your Majeſty ſhould collect to be the ſenſe of the people.

That your Majeſty may enjoy every felicity through a long and glorious reign, over loyal and happy ſubjects, and that your deſcendants may inherit your ſeveral dominions, till time ſhall be no more, is, and always will be, our ſincere and fervent prayer.

Signed by order,
ALEX. KIRKPATRICK.
BENJ. SMITH.

On July 6. the High Sheriffs waited on his Grace the Lord Lieutenant with the above petition, requeſting his Excellency that he would be pleaſed to tranſmit the ſame; when he returned the following anſwer.

"Gentlemen, At the ſame time that I comply with your requeſt, I ſhall not fail to convey my entire diſapprobation of the contents, as caſting unjuſt reflections on the laws and parliament of Ireland, and tending to weaken the authority of both."

Dublin, July 9. The play of Douglas being ordered by his Grace the Lord Lieutenant, on the riſing of the curtain the audience cried out for the volunteers march, which on his Excellency's entrance was played accordingly. The play, or more properly the clamour, now began, and choruſſes of groaning, hiſſing, and ſhouting, with whiſtles, cat-calls, horſe-legs, and geld-horns, all kept in tune by the trunk-maker, thundered through the houſe, and made the drama a complete farce. The manager was called upon: "I am," ſaid he, "the ſervant of the public, and wiſh to know whether it is your will the performance ſhould continue." The propriety of this ſpeech was univerſally approved, and the play was ſuffered to go on, but with frequent interruptions. A few ſcenes were acted, and the cataſtrophe introduced. The entertainment concluded a few minutes after eight, when the Viceroy withdrew, but not unnoticed, the former muſic attending him to the caſtle. Among thoſe who were moſt noticed on this occaſion was the adjutant of the goldſmiths corps. Him the ſheriff trepanned out of the houſe by a tap on the ſhoulder. On paſſing the door, he was hurried to the guard-room, and his pockets ſearched; but he had not been there long before the multitude aſſembled, to the number of 4000, before the Caſtle-gate, and were continually increaſing, ſo that it was thought neceſſary to releaſe him.

At a full meeting of the Rathdowny Volunteers, held on Sunday, Aug. 1. the following reſolutions were unanimouſly agreed to:

"Reſolved, That we ſhall ever maintain unſhaken loyalty to our much-reſpected Sovereign, and veneration for our excellent conſtitution.

Reſolved, That this kingdom has been very materially injured by the conſtant importation, and too-general uſe of foreign manufactures.

Reſolved, That it is our duty, at this criſis, to accede to that non-conſumption agreement which has been ſo univerſally adopted throughout this kingdom.

Reſolved, therefore, That we will not purchaſe for ourſelves or families any other than Iriſh manufactures, until the legiſlature ſhall have eſtabliſhed ſome proper and permanent encouragement for the commerce, trade, and manufactures of this kingdom."

In conſequence of the breach of this agreement, a great number of reſpectable citizens have been pulled out of bed in the night, ſtripped and barbarouſly flogged; and afterwards tarred and feathered; a puniſhment as common now in Ireland as it was formerly in America. Not a day paſſes but ſome outrage or other is committed either by the military, the mob, or the volunteers.

On the night of Monday, Aug. 2. between eleven and twelve, a ſcuffle happened with ſome of the officers of the army and a Mr Flattery, a publican on Ormond Quay.—The officers, fluſhed, it is ſuppoſed with wine, entered the houſe of the publican, and under the pretence of calling for liquor, behaved in a very indecent manner to Mrs Flattery. Upon hearing the diſturbance, Mr Flattery came, and with the aſſiſtance of ſome people in the houſe, got the officers turned out. A mob having aſſembled at the door, threw ſtones at the officers, by which ſome of them were much hurt. They immediately went to the guards, and draughting all but the centinels on duty, returned with a large body of the ſoldiery. Fortunately Sheriff Smith, hearing of the tumult, haſtened to the ſpot, and by his preſence and exertions prevented further miſchief. Next day Mr Flattery ſwore an aſſault and battery againſt the rioters.—It is ſaid, however, that Mr Flattery has accepted of 1000 l. and that all proſecution is to ceaſe.

In conſequence of this riot, meetings of ſeveral of the volunteer corps were held. The *Uppercroſs and Coolock Volunteers*, of which Mr Flattery is a member, paſſed the following reſolutions.

Reſolved, That we view with the utmoſt abhorrence the cruel and unprovoked outrage committed on the perſon of Mr Neal Flattery, a member of this corps, and a citizen, with other perſons of his family, by certain officers of the army, on Monday the 2d inſtant, and that we conſider this as one of the evil effects of the unneceſſary augmentation of the military eſtabliſhment.

Reſolved, That we pledge ourſelves, in the moſt ſacred manner, to each other, and to our fellow-citizens, to hold ourſelves always prepared to aſſiſt the magiſtrates to repel any ſuch violences in future.

Maj. M'Cormick reported his having received the following letter from Col. Lord Harrington, containing a meſſage to be communicated to this corps.

SIR, *Dublin Barracks, Aug. 6.*

Having learned, with much concern, that an affray which happened ſome nights ago (wherein my name has appeared) has been imputed to an intention on my part, and that of the officers of the army, of offering an inſult to the corps of volunteers of this city, I took the earlieſt opportunity of endeavouring to remove ſo ill-founded an impreſſion, by a meſſage, which I begged an officer of my regiment to deliver to you, of which the following is a copy, viz.

I am deſired by Lord Harrington to wait on you, in conſequence of his "having been informed that the unfortunate affray which happened on Monday night on the Quay, is conſidered in the light of an intentional inſult on the volunteer corps. His Lordſhip deſires me to aſſure you, Sir, and through you the corps to which you belong, that he is perſuaded, that there was not the remoteſt intention of that kind:—and that in regard to himſelf, (whoſe name has been mentioned in it), he never had an idea of treating with diſreſpect, much leſs of offering an inſult, to you, or any other corps of volunteers."

Underſtanding that you have expreſſed a wiſh, that the above meſſage ſhould be conveyed by letter, previous to its being communicated by you to the corps, I trouble you with this repetition of it.

I am, Sir, &c. HARRINGTON.

To the Commanding Officer of the Uppercroſs and Coolock Volunteers.

Reſolved, That we feel the utmoſt ſatisfaction in being thus convinced that Lord Harrington had no intention of offering any diſreſpect to this or any other volunteer corps, in the perſon of Mr Flattery; and that we believe his Lordſhip incapable of wiſhing to commit a breach of that mutual and friendly intercourſe which ought ever to ſubſiſt between the officers of his Majeſty's army and the volunteers.

Reſolved, That we return our warmeſt acknowledgements to the gentlemen of the other volunteer corps, who ſo readily

dily mounted guard on the nights ſucceeding the outrage committed on one of our members.

RICH. M'CORMICK, *Chairman.*

SCOTLAND.

On the 2d of Auguſt came on before the High Court of Juſticiary at Edinburgh, the trial of Peter M'Gregor, late ſervant to a gentleman in Edinburgh, George Lawrie fleſher, William Anderſon day-labourer, and James Paul apprentice to a tanner, for being concerned in the riot at Canonmills in the 4th of June laſt. Anderſon and Paul were recommitted to priſon in order to be tried upon a ſeparate indictment. The trial of M'Gregor and Lawrie then proceeded. The jury returned their verdict next day, all in one voice finding M'Gregor guilty of throwing ſtones and being very active in the riot; and finding Lawrie guilty of breaking down ſome caſks belonging to the proprietors of the diſtillery. The Court pronounced ſentence on the 7th, ordaining M'Gregor to be impriſoned three months, baniſhed for fourteen years, and his ſervice adjudged for five. Lawrie is ſentenced to be impriſoned ſix months; and obliged to find bail to keep the peace two years, and to be impriſoned till he find ſaid bail.

Thurſday, Aug. 12. the High Court of Juſticiary proceeded on the trial of George Hutchiſon, and Peter Brown, journeymen bakers, and John Aitchiſon, ſhoemaker in Canongate, accuſed of aſſembling in a riotous manner in the Canongate, on the night of Feb. 26. and giving William Wallace, late ſervant to the Lord Chief Baron, a mortal blow on the head, of which he died about five weeks after; alſo of attacking, beating, and abuſing paſſengers on the high-ſtreet of Canongate that night. Mr Solicitor-General reſtricted the libel to an arbitrary puniſhment. The Jury returned their verdict next day, unanimouſly finding the homicide charged againſt the pannels not proven, but unanimouſly finding them guilty actors, art and part, in the riot libelled on. The Court ſentenced them to be impriſoned in the Canongate tolbooth till Wedneſday the 25th inſtant, and on that day to be whipped through the Canongate, receiving five ſtripes each at four different places, and then to be ſet at liberty. The Judges, in delivering their opinions, lamented the unhappy fate of the priſoners, and the ſeverity of their ſentence; but the frequent riots that had happened on the ſtreets of Edinburgh, and its environs, from which very bad conſequences had enſued, rendered it abſolutely neceſſary to make an example of the perpetrators.—William Spiers, and William Bartleman, indicted for the ſame crimes, having fled from juſtice, were outlawed; but Spiers having ſurrendered himſelf ſoon after the trial of the three above-mentioned pannels had begun, was committed to priſon.—Hutchiſon, Brown, and Aitchiſon, were whipt on the day appointed agreeable to their ſentence.

Aug. 23. came on before the High Court of Juſticiary, the trial of William Anderſon, late day-labourer in Edinburgh, James Paul, apprentice to the tanner buſineſs, and William Welſh journeyman ſhoemaker, for convocating the mob, which, in a riotous manner, attacked the diſtillery at Canonmills on the 7th of June, by ſeizing the drum belonging to Portſburgh, or Weſt Port, and beating the ſame, or cauſing it to be beat through the ſtreets of this city and ſuburbs, huzzaing, and calling out, "For Canonmills!" The libel was reſtricted to an arbitrary puniſhment. The jury returned their verdict on the 24th, all except one, finding the crime libelled againſt Anderſon and Paul, of inſtigating and exciting a mob, by beating a drum, at the time and places ſet forth in the indictment, proven;—alſo found, that Welſh was concerned in exciting the mob, but in a leſs degree than the other two. Sentence was then pronounced againſt Anderſon and Paul, ordaining them to be publicly whipt through the ſtreets of Edinburgh, by the hands of the common hangman, on Wedneſday the 8th of September next, and thereafter to be baniſhed to one or other of his Majeſty's plantations for fourteen years, and their ſervice adjudged for ſeven years; with certification, if they ſhall be found in Scotland during that period, that they ſhall be impriſoned, whipt, and again baniſhed, ſo often as they return, till they have completed the fourteen years baniſhment in one entire period. Welſh was ſentenced to be impriſoned for ſix months, and to find bail to keep the peace for two years.

On Monday, Aug. 9. a young man at Edinburgh, who had ſome time ago been in a ſtate of infanity, having taken umbrage at his grandmother, procured

ſome arſenick, which he put into ſome porridge, which four perſons partook of. Luckily they had mixed ſome ale with it, by which means the poiſon in a great meaſure ſubſided to the bottom, and its effects were leſs violent. By proper medical aſſiſtance being immediately procured, they were recovered, except one old lady, who is ſince dead.

On Wedneſday, Aug. 4. the preſbytery of Edinburgh ſuſtained the preſentation given by the magiſtrates and town-council to the Rev. Mr Simpſon, miniſter at Greenlaw, to ſupply the vacancy in the Tolbooth church, vacant by the death of Dr Webſter. A very long debate, however, took place, as to the powers of the council to preſent to a particular charge, when it was carried by a great majority, that they could only preſent to the city at large, which, it is ſaid, is one pariſh only. Mr Simpſon's preſentation was therefore ſuſtained on that ground alone. Againſt this judgement Dean of Guild Macdowal proteſted, in name of the town-council, for leave to appeal to the Synod. Several Reverend members alſo entered their diſſent.

On Tueſday, Aug. 17. the general ſeſſions of Edinburgh met in the New-Church ayle, in order to take under conſideration the law of patronage. Mr John Dickſon, Advocate, opened the buſineſs in a ſpeech of conſiderable length, by way of introduction to ſeveral reſolutions, which he hoped the meeting would adopt. They were very ably combated, upon a variety of grounds, by Principal Robertſon, Dr Dryſdale, and James Hunter-Blair, Eſq; and very well defended by Dr Erſkine, Dr Hunter, Mr Kemp, and Mr Dickſon. After a great deal of reaſoning by theſe gentlemen, the vote was put, *Approve* or *reject?* and the roll being called, it carried, by a majority of *four*, to *approve*. Againſt this deciſion Principal Robertſon proteſted. He likewiſe proteſted, that he ſhould not be liable for any of the money which might be requiſite for the propoſed application to parliament. All the gentlemen in the minority adhered to the Principal's proteſt, and took inſtruments in the clerk's hands. The reſolutions follow.

"The miniſters, elders, and deacons of this city, convened in general ſeſſion, having taken into their ſerious conſideration the preſent ſtate of this country, with reſpect to the ſettlement of miniſters, to which the attention of the public has of late been much directed, came to the following reſolutions:

1. That the act of the 10th of Queen Anne, reſtoring patronages in Scotland, was an invaſion of the conſtitution of this Church, which was eſtabliſhed ſoon after the glorious Revolution by the act 1690, and was declared to be unalterable by the treaty of Union; and that this act 1712 was obtained by the influence of men who were ſtrongly ſuſpected of being unfriendly to the liberties of this kingdom, to the ſucceſſion of the illuſtrious Houſe of Hanover, and to the Preſbyterian form of church-government.

2. That the act 1712, reſtoring to patrons the right of preſenting to vacant churches, permitted them to retain the greateſt part of the compenſation which had been given them, when that right was taken from them by a former law.

3. That the mode of ſettling miniſters by preſentation is repugnant to the ſpirit and genius of the Preſbyterian form of church-government, which was introduced into the country at the æra of the Reformation from Popery, and has ever ſince been moſt dear to the great body of its inhabitants.

4. That although ſeventy years have elapſed ſince the reſtoration of patronage, the averſion of the people of this country to that mode of ſettling miniſters is very little abated; nor is there any reaſon, from paſt experience, to imagine that it will ever be overcome.

5. That from the exerciſe of the law of patronage, which has of late years become more rigorous than at any former period, many of the moſt pernicious conſequences have ariſen both to the civil and religious intereſts of this country: Conſequences too well known, and too ſeverely felt, to ſtand in need of a particular detail.

6. That though ſome difference of ſentiment hath prevailed concerning the preciſe meaning of the law of patronage, and the mode of its execution, ſome alteration of that law appears to this meeting highly expedient, if not abſolutely neceſſary, for the peace and the true intereſt of this country.

7. That the reſtoration of the conſtitution of this church, as it was ſettled by the act 1690, and confirmed by the treaty of Union, would be productive of the beſt effects. It would give the landed gentlemen that influence in the ſettle-

ment of their reſpective pariſhes, which they formerly poſſeſſed, and which ought always to belong to them. It would give much ſatisfaction to the elderſhip, and to the great body of the people. It would greatly contribute to heal the diviſions of the church, to increaſe (if poſſible) the attachment of the people to his Majeſty's perſon and government, and to render them more ardent in the ſervice of their country.

8. That a ſufficient compenſation ought to be given to patrons for the right of preſentation, of which the revival of the act 1690 would deprive them, that, in the midſt of the general ſatisfaction, they might have no reaſon to complain.

9. That for the reaſons contained in the above reſolutions, and for many others which might have been mentioned, the general ſeſſions are willing to join with their brethren thoughout the kingdom in an orderly and conſtitutional application to parliament upon this ſubject, and will chearfully contribute their proportion of the expence with which ſuch an application may be attended. And the general ſeſſions appoint the following committee; Dr Erſkine, Mr Randall, Mr Kemp, Dr Hunter, Dr Gloag, miniſters; Bailie Walker, Bailie Galloway, Mr John Dickſon, Mr John Moſſman, Mr George Jollie, Mr Francis Braidwood, Mr John Paterſon, Mr John Moncrieff, Mr Archibald Mercer, any three of them to be a quorum; with power to them to take ſuch meaſures as may be thought proper for promoting the object of the above reſolutions, and with inſtructions to apply to the moderator of the general ſeſſions to call another meeting when they ſhall judge it neceſſary.—And farther, the general ſeſſions appoint a copy of this minute to be inſerted in all the Edinburgh newſpapers, that their real ſentiments upon this intereſting ſubject may be known.

This buſineſs being finiſhed, Mr John Dickſon moved the following reſolutions:

"The meeting having alſo taken under conſideration the late conduct of the magiſtrates and town council, in granting a preſentation to one of the preſent vacancies in the city, came to the following reſolutions upon that ſubject in particular, viz.

1. That it was the uniform and laudable practice in this city, from the reſtoration of Preſbytery at the glorious Revolution, down to the year 1762, to fill up vacancies in the miniſterial office according to the method preſcribed by the act 1690, viz. by calls from the magiſtrates and council, the miniſters, and elders of the reſpective ſeſſions, met together in a conjunct body: and that the departure from this plan, by the exerciſing of the right of patronage in the year 1762, was generally diſagreeable to the inhabitants of the city, and productive of much heat and animoſity, as well as of tedious and expenſive law-ſuits, to the great detriment of the public revenue.

2. That ſucceeding magiſtrates and town councils, ſenſible that the exerciſe of the right of patronage, though confirmed to them by courts of law, was odious and unpopular, wiſely declined it for twenty years paſt, reſtored the ancient and acceptable method of calls, and thereby gave the citizens freſh experience of the general harmony and ſatisfaction, as well as advantage to their religious intereſts, with which this method is uſually attended.

3. That with ſincere regret the general ſeſſions obſerved the late deviation of the magiſtrates and council from this plan, by returning to the exerciſe of their power of patronage, and that too when there ſeemed to be no ſort of occaſion for this ſtrong meaſure, in order to obtain the ſettlement of the perſon whom they were inclined to favour.

4. That the preſenting a ſtranger to a collegiate church, the meeting conſider as a meaſure particularly ſevere towards the ſeſſion and congregation of that church, whoſe views were naturally directed, by ancient uſage, as well as inclination, to the ſenior miniſter in a ſingle charge — as an unneceſſary deviation from the uſual courſe of ſupplying vacancies in the city — as highly injurious to the rights of the two miniſters now in ſingle charges — and, as founding a dangerous precedent with reſpect to all who may ſucceed them in theſe ſtations.

5. That the proteſtation againſt the ſentence of the preſbytery in this affair and carrying the cauſe by an appeal before the ſuperior courts, when the power of preſenting miniſters to the city, conſidered as one pariſh, was neither called in queſtion nor infringed, appears to this meeting a meaſure rigorous in itſelf, as well as prejudicial to the religious intereſts of the community, by unneceſſarily protracting the ſettlement.

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The general ſeſſions therefore agree, that a committee of their number be appointed to wait on the Rt Hon. the Lord Provoſt and Magiſtrates, to lay thoſe reſolutions before them, and in reſpectful terms to repreſent the grief and concern which the meaſures above mentioned have occaſioned to the members of the general ſeſſions, as well as to many other reſpectable and pious citizens; and humbly to intreat, that the magiſtrates and council will be pleaſed to adopt ſuch a plan of conduct as may tend to promote general harmony, and give peace to the city."

The ſame committee was appointed as in the former reſolutions.

Upon this another debate enſued, in which the ſame gentlemen took part who had ſpoke in the former. The reſolutions, upon the roll being called, were *approved* of by a majority likewiſe of *four*. Againſt this deciſion David Steuart, Eſq; late Lord Provoſt, diſſented, to which the gentlemen on the ſame ſide adhered.

On the 20th of Auguſt there was a very numerous meeting of the manufacturers of cottons and muſlins in the city of Glaſgow and its neighbourhood, who came to ſeveral reſolutions expreſſive of their fears for the ruinous effects of the heavy duties lately laid upon theſe articles, which amount to 1 d. 3 20ths per yard, if under 3 s. value; and 2 d. 6 20ths per yard, when at or above 3 s.

The minutes of the meeting ſet forth, That when the firſt claſs of cottons and muſlins, peculiar to this part of G. Britain, are taken at a fair average, the tax now impoſed will be about 5 per cent. of the value; and that, as the ſecond claſs will chiefly include that ſpecies of goods which is denominated 6 4ths muſlins, the tax of 2 d. 6 20ths per yard, at an average, will amount to 7 or 8 per cent. of the value.

The meeting being deeply impreſſed with a ſacred regard to the laws of the realm, claim only, upon the preſent occaſion, that undoubted right which they poſſeſs as Britiſh ſubjects, firmly, yet reſpectfully, to ſtate to his Majeſty's miniſters, and to the nation at large, thoſe feelings which it would be criminal to ſuppreſs, at a moment when, by an ill-adviſed ſyſtem of taxation, they ſee the ſorts of fair induſtry depreſſed and diſcouraged, and even infant manufactures ſeized upon, as objects of public revenue, before they have come to maturity, or taken root in the country.

They then declare their reſolution to apply early next ſeſſion of parliament for a repeal of the act.

The following are ſome of the reſolutions.

Reſolved,—That as the article of cotton-wool affords ſo great a field of produce and wealth to our Weſt-India iſlands, and, from its bulk, muſt, if widely extended, prove an infinite ſource of employment for our ſhipping and great multitudes of ſeamen, it is worthy the moſt ſerious attention of the legiſlature, and merits its utmoſt countenance and encouragement; at leaſt, the utmoſt diſtance ſhould be kept from every principle which tends to diſturb or diſcourage it.

—That the meaſure of thus checking and diſtreſſing the infant-manufacture of muſlin, by a premature and an unequal tax, cannot fail to produce a diſpoſition in the minds of many individuals, to carry their property and buſineſs to Ireland, where a bounty of 5 per cent. is given on all cotton and muſlins for inland ſale, and 8 per cent. when exported.

—That the ſpirit of abandoning Great Britain, by emigration, can in no way be ſo effectually checked, as by thoſe fit encouragements which the wiſe policy of the Britiſh legiſlature was accuſtomed to hold out to the manufactures of the country, by avoiding every burden upon the inland commerce and induſtry, that could either check its progreſs, or lay it under any reſtriction whatſoever.

—That the manufacturers of cotton and muſlin feel as warm an attachment to the Britiſh government, and are as willing to contribute their ſhare freely and liberally to ſupport the exigencies and enterpriſes of the ſtate, as any of his Majeſty's ſubjects of whatever deſcription they may be. They do not complain of taxes in general, which they know to be neceſſary in the preſent ſituation of public affairs; and in all caſes where manufactures have been ſpared, and where the principle of taxation has not ſtruck at the root of thoſe branches which give employment to many thouſands of his Majeſty's ſubjects, they have and will uniformly ſubmit to a burden which they know to be reaſonable and unavoidable.

—That with theſe ſentiments of regard to the general good of the empire, the manufacturers of muſlin conſider themſelves as a body of individuals at leaſt equally intitled to the favour and protection of government, as any public ſociety who import a ſimilar article from a foreign country;

try; yet they have the extreme mortification to ſee their manufacture diſcriminated as an object of taxation, while the Eaſt India Company, at the ſame moment, are ſupported at the public expence, with little ſhort of one million of money, free of intereſt, which would nearly equal the whole produce of the tax on cottons.

—That the manufacture of muſlins muſt be conſidered as a great national acquiſition, and highly deſerving the aid and encouragement of parliament, by ſuch politic and wiſe regulations as ſhall render the labour and induſtry of his Majeſty's ſubjects in Great Britain productive to themſelves, and beneficial to the ſtate.

—That every meaſure that has a tendency to raiſe up an unfair and impolitic competition, by the encouragement of the importation or ſale of Eaſt-India muſlins, by means of pecuniary aids from government, is partial and unwiſe, and ought to be reſiſted and oppoſed, with zeal and firmneſs, by a Britiſh parliament, intereſted, as it muſt be, in whatever ſhall cheriſh and protect the inland commerce and induſtry of the country.

James Tytler, chymiſt in Edinburgh, has been for ſome time paſt employed in the conſtruction of a fire-balloon. Its dimenſions are about 40 feet in height, and 30 in diameter. It was the intention of the projector to have aſcended with his balloon about the beginning of this month, during the race-week; but things not being in that forwardneſs and perfection he expected, he was obliged to poſtpone his aerial journey. On the morning of the 27th, however, he made a deciſive experiment. About five o'clock the balloon was inflated, and ſoon manifeſted a diſpoſition to aſcend. Mr Tytler took his ſeat, and with inexpreſſible ſatisfaction felt himſelf raiſed with great power from the earth. The machine entangled itſelf among the branches of a tree, and by a rope belonging to the maſt which raiſed it, ſo that its power of aſcenſion was greatly weakened. However, when the obſtacles were removed, it flew up to the height of 350 feet, as meaſured by a line left hanging from the bottom of the baſket. The morning was calm, and therefore the balloon went but a ſmall way, as no furnace was taken up with it. It ſoon returned to the earth, without any damage to the projector, who, in teſtimony of his ſecurity, returned, while in the air, the huzzas of the ſpectators; and on his return was overwhelmed with their congratulations.

MARRIAGES.

At Edinburgh, James Trail, Eſq; ſheriff-depute of Caithneſs and Sutherland, to the Rt Hon. Lady Janet Sinclair, ſiſter of the Earl of Caithneſs.

At Edinburgh, Lieut. Lewis Hay, of the engineers, to Miſs Barbara Craigie, eldeſt daughter of John Craigie of Glendoick, Eſq;

Aug. 10. At Blandfield, Mr John Anderſon clerk to the ſignet, to Miſs Mitchelſon, daughter of Mr Samuel Mitchelſon ſenior.

11. At Clapham, Lord Balgonie, eldeſt ſon of the Earl of Leven, to Miſs Thornton, daughter of John Thornton, Eſq; of Clapham.

17. At London, the Hon. Adm. Digby to Mrs Jauncy, eldeſt daughter of Andrew Elliot, Eſq; late Lieutenant-Governor of New York.

21. At Godwood, in Suſſex, the Hon. George Cranfield Berkeley, to the Hon. Miſs Charlotte Lenox, daughter of Lord George Lenox, brother of the Duke of Richmond.

BIRTHS.

July 26. At Anderſton, the wife of John Steill, ſilk-gauze weaver, of two boys and a girl. They are all fine healthy children.

29. At London, the Counteſs of Traquair, of a ſon.

At London, the Viſcounteſs of Stormont, of a ſon.

Aug. 13. At Fountainhall, Lady Lauder Dick, of a ſon.

London, Aug. 15. Mrs Anne Hogſpun, the wife of a ſhipwright at Plymouth dock, was brought to bed, on the 7th, of four children, all boys. Three of them are likely to do well, but the fourth had but one leg, and died ſoon after it was born.

18 At Edinburgh, Mrs Stuart of Allanbank, of a daughter.

20. At Balcarras, the Counteſs of Balcarras, of a ſon.

21. At Edinburgh, the Lady of Sir James Grant, Bt, of a ſon.

DEATHS.

Rome, July 24. On Tueſday laſt died Cardinal Spinola, aged 70 years and nine months.

July 28. At Naples, Lady Murray, wife of Sir William Murray of Touchadam, Bt, and daughter of John Callender of Craigforth, Eſq;

28. At Mundole, near Forres, John Thomſon day-labourer, aged 107; who had by his firſt wife 28 children, and by a ſecond 17; was father to 45, grandfather to 86 great-grandfather to 97, and great-great grandfather to 23; in all 251. He retained his ſenſes, and followed his uſual employment, to the day preceding his death.

At Rotterdam, Rachael Solomons, a Jeweſs, aged 110

Aug. 4 At Edinburgh, Mrs Chriſtian Grant, relict of George Buchan of Kello, Eſq;

Florence, Aug. 6 The Father Capuchin Simon de Piſa died lately in this city, aged near 100 years.

10. At Dover, on his return from the continent,

tinent, in his 71ſt year, Allan Ramſay, Eſq; principal portrait painter to their Majeſties.

11. At Edinburgh, Mrs Marjory Fleming, relict of the Hon. John Elphinſtone.

12. At Matlock, Derbyſhire, Ann Clowes, aged 103. She meaſured no more than three feet nine inches in height, and weighed about forty-eight pounds. The houſe ſhe lived in was, like herſelf, diminutive, containing only one room, and that not eight feet ſquare.

13. At Thurſton, Miſs Betſey Hunter, eldeſt daughter of Robert Hunter, Eſq; of Thurſton.

14. At London, Miſs Eliſabeth Renton, third daughter of the late John Renton of Lamberton, Eſq;

16. At Baltimore, Ireland, Patrick Macdonald, Eſq; aged 108.

23. At his houſe, near Edinburgh, Col. John Macpherſon, of the Eaſt-India Company's ſervice.

24. At Banff, Thomas Innes, Eſq; late of Roſeburn.

28. At New Hailes, Miſs Dalrymple, eldeſt daughter of the late Sir James Dalrymple of Hailes, Bt.

PREFERMENTS.

From the London Gazette.

The King has been pleaſed,

July 31. to appoint William M'Connell, Eſq; to be Commiſſary of the commiſſariot of Wigton, in Scotland, vacant by the reſignation of John M'Culloch, Eſq;

Aug. 2. to appoint Col. Thomas Carleton to be Captain-General and Governor in Chief of the province of New Brunſwick, in America.

7. to order a writ of ſummons to parliament under the great ſeal of Great Britain, directed to Gen. Sir John Griffin Griffin, of Audley End, in the county of Eſſex, K. B. by the name, ſtyle, and title of John Griffin, Lord Howard of Walden.

15 to confer the honour of Knighthood on Francis Willis, of Hampſtead, in the county of Middleſex, Eſq;

21. to appoint Robert Waller, Eſq; and Maj.-Gen. Adeane, to be Grooms of the bedchamber.

—to conſtitute and appoint the Hon. Keith Stewart to be Receiver-General of the Land-rents and Caſualties in Scotland.

to preſent the Rev Wm Allanſon, B A. to the Rectory of Scrangham, in Yorkſhire, void by the death of the Rev. John Blake.

And the Rev. George Wm Anderſon, B A. to the Rectory of Epworth, in the Iſle of Axholme, in Lincolnſhire, void by the reſignation of Sir Wm Anderſon, Bt.

28. to preſent the Rev. Robert Wharton, Maſter of Arts, to the Rectory of Catton, in the dioceſe and county of York, void by the death of the Rev. John Blake.

Queen's Palace, Aug. 7. The Queen has been pleaſed to appoint the Counteſs of Harcourt to be one of the Ladies of her Majeſty's bedchamber, in the room of the Ducheſs of Argyle, who has retired.

From other papers.

In conſequence of an unanimous petition and memorial of the univerſity of Glaſgow, his Majeſty has been graciouſly pleaſed, *Aug.* 14. to grant a warrant in favour of Patrick Wilſon, A. M. and Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, to be Aſſiſtant to his father Dr Alexander Wilſon, Profeſſor of Practical Aſtronomy, and Obſerver in Glaſgow College; and veſting him with the reverſion of ſaid office.

Prices of grain at Haddington, Sept. 3.

	Beſt.	*Second.*	*Third.*
Wheat,	24s. 6d	23s. 6d	22s. 0d.
Bear,	23s. 0d.	00s. 0d.	00s. 0d.
Oats,	17s. 6d.	16s. 6d.	15s. 0d.
Peaſe,	18s. 0d.	00s. 0d.	00s. 0d.

New Oats, 15 s. 6 d. and 16 s.

Edinburgh, Sept. 10. 1784. Oat-meal, 1s. 2d. Bear-meal, 9d. Peaſe-meal, 8d 2f.

Burials in the Grayfriars church-yard in Auguſt.

Males 20 } 48. Decreaſed 6.
Females 28 }

Age.	N°	Diseases, &c.	N°
Under	2 16	Aged	— 7
Between 2 & 5	6	Bowelhive	— 3
5 & 10	3	Chincough	— 1
10 & 20	2	Conſumption	— 10
20 & 30	2	Dropſy	— 1
30 & 40	2	Fever	— 6
40 & 50	4	Meaſels	— 2
50 & 60	3	Smallpox	— 12
60 & 70	4	Suddenly	— 2
70 & 80	5	Teething	— 4
80 & 90	1		
90 & 100	0		

PRICES OF STOCKS, Aug. 21.

4 per cent. Ann 1777, 74 1 4th a 3 8ths.
3 per cent. Conſ. 56 1 half a 5 8ths.
3 per cent red. 57 1 half a 5 8ths.
Long ann. 17 3-16ths a 1 4th.
Navy-bills, 13 1 4th diſc.
Lot. Tick 15 l. 14 s.
Omnium, 3 per cent. prem.

Aug 31.

Bank Stock 117 1 4th a 3 8ths.
4 per cent Ann 1777. 74 a 73 1 half a 3 4ths.
3 per cent. Conſ 56 a 55 3 8ths a 5 8ths a 3 4ths.
3 per cent. red 56 3 4ths a 5 8ths a 7 8ths.
Long ann 17 1-16th a 17 1 8th.
5 per cent Stock 1784, 89 1 half.
Navy-bills, 13 3 4ths diſc.
Lot. Tick. 15 l. 14 s.
Omnium, 1 1 4th prem.